MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

5 NOVEMBER 1981

Israel

Relations With U.S. -- Jerusalem radio reported that Prime Minister Menahem Begin was satisfied with a message from U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig promising that the United States will continue to adhere to the Camp David accords as the sole basis for obtaining "political arrangements" in the Middle East and that it will honor all agreements reached during Begin's last visit to Washington. The radio said the U.S. Administration appears to have understood Israel's decision "not to participate in the political process" if the United States deviates from the Camp David accords and adopts other plans, such as the Saudi peace plan. According to another radio report, the joint Likud-Alignment Knesset delegation will depart for the United States in 1 to 2 weeks. It will be headed by Israel's next ambassador to Washington, MK Moshe Arens.

Jerusalem POST on Saudi Plan -- The Jerusalem POST has called on Israel to give "due consideration" to the Saudi peace plan rather than reject it outright. In a 4 November commentary, the POST said Israel should announce its agreement with one or two of Crown Prince Fahd's eight points, provide reasons for rejection of the others, submit Israeli counterproposals and invite the Saudis to hold immediate negotiations. Asserting that such a course would put the Saudis "on the spot" and allow Israel to ascertain their true intentions, the POST added that the opposition to the Fahd plan from Arab rejectionists ought to give Israelis "cause to pause before joining them in their knee-jerk rejectionism."

Bi'r Zayt Closure, Demonstrations -- Jerusalem radio reported that the Military Government for the occupied territories has closed Bi'r Zayt College in response to student demonstrations there. Earlier, the radio reported renewed Palestinian demonstrations in various West Bank towns.

Saudi Arabia

SPA reported that British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington held separate meetings with Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and National Guard Commander Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. Another SPA report noted Carrington's departure from Riyadh on the morning of 5 November. Meanwhile, Riyadh radio praised Carrington's recent assertions that the PLO should be a party to peace talks, saying the British foreign secretary has displayed a "a serious desire to deal with facts that cannot be ignored."

Gulf Defense

GCC Defense Coordination -- In an interview with the Kuwaiti paper AS-SIYASAH, Saudi Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan revealed that, at their meeting last September, armed forces commanders of the members states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) agreed to set up an "advanced defensive group" to coordinate the defenses of the six states. GCC leaders will consider the results of this agreement at the forthcoming summit in Riyadh on 10 November, Prince Sultan said. According to QNA, armed forces staff chiefs will attend the GCC summit.

Kuwaiti Denial of Pact With U.S. -- KUNA reported that a responsible Kuwaiti source denied the Washington POST's allegation that Kuwait and other Gulf states have concluded a secret agreement with the United States on the establishment of a defensive pact under U.S. supervision.

Egypt

Relations With Saudi Arabia -- In an interview to Beirut's MONDAY MONRING for 2-8 November, Egyptian Ambassador to the United States Ashraf Ghurbal affirmed that contacts between Egypt and Saudi Arabia "have never stopped." Asked about the nature of the contacts, Ghurbal chose not to elaborate.

Seizure of Presses, Arrests -- MENA cited AL-AKHBAR as reporting that security forces seized three presses used by "terrorists" to print leaflets fomenting sectarian sedition. The authorities also arrested 18 new suspects named in testimony given by leaders of "the terrorist organization" already in custody.

Libya

More on Plot -- Reporting further on the alleged U.S. plot to kill Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, Tripoli radio cited various news media reports as saying that the plan calls for strafing all the places where the Libyan leader might possibly be. According to the radio, observers link this plot with attempts during August by U.S. planes to penetrate Libyan territory via the Gulf of Sidra.

Continuation of Withdrawal -- AFP reports indicated that Libyan forces in eastern Chad began their departure for Libya on 3 November. Monitored Libyan media have still not mentioned the withdrawal from Chad.

Iran

According to the 3 November FRANCE-SOIR, a former aide to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, Khalil Reza'i, who recently fled Iran, said the present Iranian regime is bound to collapse very soon. He said the "terror" in Iran is such that if Khomeyni were to relent for 2 or 3 days "he would be swept away." The former Khomeyni aide also stated that while the shah killed hundreds during his reign, Khomeyni has killed tens of thousands in a few months.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ARAB LEAGUE'S KLIBI ON CANCUN, PALESTINE ISSUE

PM021147 Paris LE FIGARO Magazine in French 24-30 Oct 81 pp 88-93

[Robert Lacontre interview with Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi in Tunis: "Cancun: The Arabs Explain Their Positions to Us" -- date not given]

[Excerpts] Robert Lacontre: Mr Secretary General, 24 of the most important leaders are now having consultations in Cancun. What role will the Arab countries be playing at this super-summit?

Chedli Klibi: There are not many Arab countries in Cancun. Only Algeria and Saudi Arabia are represented there. It is true they both have special influence and represent the Arab consensus. I think they will argue along fairly similar lines to France. We want better aid for the Third World and a better conception of that aid.

Robert Lacontre: Could you be more specific?

Chedli Klibi: The Third World has a very heavy debt, equivalent to several hundred billion dollars, on which the interest is also very costly, around $8 trillion [as published] per year. This is a really untenable situation. The UN aid target of 0.7 percent of the gross industrial product has not been attained by many countries.

International trade is unbalanced, and balance must be restored between North and South. The world monetary system should be reviewed and adjusted to avoid excessively abrupt fluctuations, which threaten the developing countries' economies. The energy question must be considered with greater realism, because the Arab countries are busy exploiting their oil wealth in excess of their needs out of concern to protect the international economy from a serious upset, in other words out of a concern for solidarity with the international community. But this must not be a one-way solidarity. The international community must be aware that oil is not merely a fuel but a resource for the future, a raw material which must be saved. Therefore oil substitutes must be encouraged, so that they can take over and oil can be used judiciously.

Robert Lacontre: What solution do you advocate?

Chedli Klibi: A new economic order must be established. Special attention must be paid to agriculture in the Third World and large amount of capital must be invested and advanced technology applied there.

We must end the Third World scandal whereby countries which are industrially underdeveloped are not even capable of attaining self-sufficiency in grain production.

Robert Lacontre: Will President as-Sadat's assassination complicate or facilitate solutions in the Middle East?

Chedli Klibi: The West feels that it has lost a great friend. There is, therefore, a vacuum. You are convinced that the chief was a man who wanted peace and who was a unique figure. I venture to criticize that view, because if As-Sadat is taken as an isolated specimen in his own country and in the Arab world, what use is he? What is the value of a peace tied to one man who is obviously mortal like any man?

As far as his own country is concerned, the period now starting may be turbulent. That is possible. We do not hope for that because we do not want the fraternal Egyptian people to experience new trials and also because upheavals which might affect Egyptian society would be bound to have repercussions in the region.

That leaves the Arab viewpoint. Following As-Sadat's death, while regretting the violence of it -- and you know that we have always condemned violence -- I feel bound to express my full agreement with the assessment made by Mr Cheysson, namely that As-Sadat's death will certainly "remove an obstacle" in the way of united Arab action. That is an essential point for any peaceful settlement in the region.

I return to my first idea: What is the value of an isolated As-Sadat? He was incapable of restoring or imposing peace, so it is only possible to have a lasting or imposing peace, so it is only possible to have a lasting peace settlement if it draws Arab consensus, if it is accepted by all Arab countries and especially by those primarily concerned, namely the confrontation countries and especially the PLO.

If the new Egyptian president were to place his action in the Arab context, respecting the imperatives of both united Arab action and a lasting peace, that could obviously be regarded as a positive factor.

Robert Lacontre: As-Sadat is dead and the Palestinian problem is still not solved. Moreover the impression people have is that the Arab countries talk a great deal about it, but that ultimately no Arab regime wants a Palestinian state.

Chedli Klibi: This is an absolutely false idea which has been invented by a certain type of Zionist propaganda. Attempts have been made to convince first President Carter and now President Reagan and many other world leaders that the Arab countries which claim to be fighting for a Palestinian state really deep-down want to keep the Palestinian people in tents in the refugee camps.

This is absolutely untrue. There are now nearly 4 million Palestinians. They have two essential characteristics: first an extremely high birthrate, as is the case with all those who live in deplorable conditions, and second, like any persecuted minority, an extremely high proportion of cadres, intellectuals, engineers, doctors and so forth -- in any event a much higher proportion than in any other Arab country.

In 10 or 15 years there will be 7 or 8 million Palestinians. They will probably maintain this very high proportion of intellectuals and cadres in all spheres. For instance, you just have to look at the number of university professors in America who are of Palestinian origin.

I would also like to take this opportunity of correcting a mistake, or rather a lie, which is frequently spread by Zionist propaganda. It is often said that the Palestinians, who are Arabs, should simply be integrated into some Arab country. Libya, for instance, is a vast and underpopulated country: they should settle there. That is a mistake. The Palestinian people's identity is being disregarded. Can you merge the French people with the Swiss, Dutch or Belgian people? They are, in many cases, neighboring countries which are like each other in many respects. But they are different, distinct peoples. Exactly the same is true of the Palestinian people. Of course there are many ties which unite the Arab countries and make them one and the same nation, but the Palestinian people have their own personality and identity. They will never agree to settle anywhere but on their land. That is why they will continue the struggle until the win.

The Palestinian problem complicates all Arab problems and is preventing the Arab nation from devoting itself to its real problems, in other words development problems.

Robert Lacontre: Are you not afraid that this Palestinian state might immediately become progressive, facilitate Russian penetration and endanger the area's moderate regimes?

Chedli Klibi: If it is created quickly under present conditions, the Palestinian state will be a very balanced state. It will, of course, have a limited amount of territory, but that is no obstacle.

Europeans frequently wonder how all those Palestinians can be housed on such a small territory. First, many Palestinians will not return. Those who are in America, in Europe, those who have careers in Arab countries will stay there because it is in their interest to do so. They have their family, career and wealth there.

At present, every time there is a conference, the Arab countries think of the Palestinian problem first. This poisons their relations with the other countries when they would like to play a more normal, far-reaching and constructive part in solving the great problems facing mankind: the problems of hunger, international trade, the new world economic order. Today, even in the IMF and World Bank we are raising the Palestinian problem on principle, because that is, of course, a means of struggle.

A new era will open with the recognition of the Palestinian state. It will be a highly developed and necessarily a moderate state, by the very fact that the PLO's present structures are based on democratic foundations which the international parliamentary union did not fail to recognize, a state whose international behavior will be balanced because it will be able to pursue a dynamic kind of nonalignment.

President Reagan's theory, which consists of stopping Soviet expansion above all, in my view does not take sufficient account of the situation in the Middle East. Failure to resolve the Palestinian problem encourages Soviet influence. The reason is that, for the Arab countries, the main thing is the existing danger against which they must guard, before thinking about a possible and hypothetical danger. The existing danger to them is Israeli expansionism.

Robert Lacontre: But why do the Palestinians not remove from their charter that famous sentence announcing Israel's extermination?

Chedli Klibi: There have been two periods in our approach to the Israeli-Arab conflict: pre-1965 and post-1965. Until 1965 the Arab countries thought that, because the creation of the state of Israel was due to an injustice and followed the colonial method of seizing land by force, hounding out the inhabitants by violence and replacing them with colonialists from outside, that colonial method should not only be condemned but combatted.

But in 1965 President Bourguiba pointed out that there are facts which have to be taken into account and that the injustice which gave rise to Israel was ratified by a UN decision. He remarked that, although iniquitous, that decision exists, and we lack the strength to reverse it.

That analysis by President Bourguiba was immediately rejected by the Arabs. But that analysis finally gained ground, and you will find nobody now -- and this has even been the case since 1967 -- who will say that the aim is to throw the Israelis into the sea.

The Israelis, who are our friends and our cousins -- we are Semites like them -- were persecuted by the Europeans who then, moved by a guilty conscience, wanted to install them somewhere. They decided on Palestine, after considering Uganda and Argentina. Palestine belongs to people who have been there for centuries, and it is not reasonable to say that the Jews occupied that land 2,000 years ago. This is a very dangerous argument. Many countries could claim Sicily or Andalusia too. Nonetheless that is what the Europeans decided. The UN decision was adopted by a majority of 1 vote.

We think that the solution lies in the search for coexistence between Israelis and Palestinians, [both] Muslim and Christian. The solution lies in organizing that coexistence. But obviously that idea cannot be the starting point. It is an idea at which we must arrive; but Israel, which has material strength and weapons, which has behind it the support of America, the greatest world power, must first say: "Yes, we recognize the Palestinian entity."

I say that it is not up the weakest, the one which, in addition, has been humiliated, to always make concessions. Although the Palestinians are making territorial concessions, they cannot make concessions in other spheres. There cannot be one-way concessions.

I would also like to tell you that it is not easy to obtain concessions from a revolutionary organization. Do you know what the revolutionary state of mind is like? Whereas a state can take the gamble of a concession of this type, a revolutionary organization cannot afford to do so. It must be sure of having something in hand which can possibly be offered in return for something else. Otherwise it would lose its main weapon: the masses' mobilization.

Robert Lacontre: Do you believe that Israel feels threatened after As-Sadat's assassination?

Chedli Klibi: Israel has always sought pretexts for avoiding peace.

Robert Lacontre: Who do you think killed As-Sadat?

Chedli Klibi: Perhaps you should put that question to the Egyptian authorities. It is difficult to say. As-Sadat was killed by his decision to go it alone.

As-Sadat's mistake -- and it is this which killed him -- was to try to erase An-Nasir's work by writing an even more spectacular page of history, by trying to succeed in this peace gamble. But, instead of taking this gamble on the strength of Arab consensus, he was unfortunately anxious to do it alone and for Egypt alone, so he hurried off to Jerusalem.

As-Sadat was primarily an isolated man who made that gesture, which was theatrically very fine, without consulting either his people or his Arab partners, especially those most concerned. But you soon realize that politics is not a matter of beauty or aesthetics but of pragmatism and results.

Unfortunately As-Sadat was killed for failing to understand that.

Robert Lacontre: Do you think that a foreign power stands to gain from sowing disorder in the Middle East?

Chedli Klibi: Yes, but the power to which you are referring would clash with the other power of which we are thinking too.

Robert Lacontre: Can the Fahd plan herald a solution?

Chedli Klibi: I think it has three merits. First, in the international community's eyes it constitutes a synthesis of a large number of UN decisions taken in either the Security Council or the General Assembly. Its second merit is that it does not contradict the decisions of the various Arab summits. The third is that it came in the nick of time, with As-Sadat dead and Camp David finished.

Robert Lacontre: Allow me to press the point. Does Moscow not have designs on the Gulf? Is it not using the Palestinians?

Chedli Klibi: As an Arab I would say that the Soviet Union is giving aid to the Arab countries and is often the only country to give that aid. On the other hand, the United States supports Israel, declares it to be its strategic ally and gives it unconditional support in all its aggressive machinations in the region.

Remember the raid on Beirut and the attack on the Iraqi reactor in Tammuz? What did America do? It took time to secure a vague condemnation. Remember the farce of the suspended, or rather delayed delivery of the F16s. It seems that those phantoms had technical faults and had to be repaired. That happened just at the right time, and the delay was portrayed as a sanction.

At the same time, however, the Soviet Union offers the Arabs technical and military cooperation, sells them weapons while America gives weapons in unlimited quantities to their enemy, and bows to their terms when it comes to selling arms to the Arabs.

Robert Lacontre: Is this not self-interested aid?

Chedli Klibi: That is your business. It is for you to say. If I were you Westerners, I would say: "It is because the West has taken this attitude to the Arab world that the Soviet Union is busily moving its pawns forward." It is because the Palestinian problem exists that Syria has been obliged to ask for the Soviet umbrella. It is because the PLO can find no other umbrella than the Soviet Union that it is now strengthening its ties with that country. People fear that the future Palestinian state might be Sovietized. But what has been done to ensure that it is not?

VOP REPORTS 'ARAFAT'S VISIT TO NORTH AFRICA

Arrives in Tunisia 4 Nov

JN041555 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1505 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met this morning with Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi, and discussed with him the latest Palestinian, Arab and international developments.

The Tunisian minister reiterated to the brother commander in chief his country's unswerving stand on the Palestinian people's inalienable rights, including their right to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent state.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar had arrived in Tunis this morning on a short visit for talks with President Habib Bourguiba and high-ranking Tunisian officials on the Middle East situation and the Palestinian cause.

Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit to Tunisia is part of a tour of Arab Maghreb countries following his visit yesterday to Saudi Arabia.

Arrives in Algeria 4 Nov

JN041816 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1745 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] arrived in Algeria from Tunis today within the framework of a tour of the Arab Maghreb countries. The brother general commander is accompanied on this tour by Staff Brig Gen Abu al-Walid [Sa'd Sayil] Fatah Central Committee member.

Brother Abu 'Ammar met this morning with Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba and Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi.

GULF AFFAIRS

CHIEFS OF STAFF TO ATTEND GULF SUMMIT IN RIYADH

GF041330 Doha QNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Riyadh, 4 Nov (QNA) -- QNA's correspondent has learned that the chiefs of staff of the armed forces of Gulf Cooperation Council countries will attend the second Gulf summit scheduled to begin Tuesday in Riyadh. The correspondent adds that the participation by the chiefs of staff reflects the importance of supporting the security and defensive measures of the council countries at this critical stage in the Arab world.

KUWAIT

KUNA 'SOURCE' DENIES GULF PACT WITH U.S.

LD041530 Kuwait KUNA in English 1156 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Kuwait, 4 Nov (KUNA) -- A responsible source Wednesday denied reports carried by the American daily the Washington POST alleging that Kuwait and other Gulf states have concluded a secret agreement with the United States on the establishment of a defensive pact in the region under American supervision. The source expressed deep regrets that a leading and sober newspaper like the Washington POST should carry such fabricated and incorrect reports.

Kuwait's policy, which rejects any interference in its internal affairs from whatever party or power, is known and clear to all. Kuwait had, on all occasions, emphasised that the security and protection of the region is the responsibility of the states of the Gulf alone without any foreign intervention, the source said. The source emphatically denied any contact with America or any other power on the subject.

OFFICIALS DENY MILITARY PARTICIPATION IN LEBANON

GF041241 Doha QNA in Arabic 0830 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Kuwait, 4 Nov (QNA) -- Official sources here today denied that Kuwait will participate militarily in a committee that will be formed to control Lebanese coasts and ports in order to prevent the flow of arms to the rightist militia and the conflicting parties in Lebanon. In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS, the sources affirmed Kuwait's concern with finding a solution for the Lebanese crisis and its political and material readiness to support such solution. The sources stressed Kuwait's basic principle that no Kuwaiti military forces are to be sent abroad.

SAUDI ARABIA

UK'S CARRINGTON MEETS WITH SAUDI MINISTERS

LD042044 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1608 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Prince 'Abdallah ibn Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard, received at 1800 today British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington. Several issues concerning both countries and [words indistinct] were discussed at the meeting.

Earlier this afternoon the British foreign secretary had a meeting with Prince Sultan ibn 'Ali al-'Aziz, defense and aviation minister. They discussed issues of mutual interest. The British foreign secretary arrived in Riyadh yesterday for a 3-day visit.

Carrington's Press Conference

LD051134 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0950 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Riyadh, 5 Nov (SPA) -- Lord Carrington explained at a press conference on his departure that he came to the Kingdom on behalf of the EEC member states to discuss with His Royal Highness Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and His Royal highness Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal the common ground between the Saudi eight-point peace plan and the 1980 Venice Declaration.

He said that his talks in the Kingdom were useful, constructive and encouraging, and that he had felt the degree of the Kingdom's concern for establishing peace through negotiations.

Lord Carrington said that he would be discussing with his EEC colleagues what they would be doing at the EEC foreign ministers' conference on 25 November regarding steps which could be taken. The British foreign secretary expressed his belief that the eight-point Saudi peace plan did not contradict the Venice Declaration. He stressed that the eight principles contained in the Saudi plan are positive and are a sound foundation for further steps. He expressed the hope that the coming Fes conference would endorse the plan, as this would help to go forward. He pointed out that there could be no movement until after next April, that is after the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Sinai.

He pointed out that the European stance was clear in the Venice Declaration and that it concentrated on two points: the recognition of the right of the Palestinians and the right of all states in the region to coexist in peace.

He said that the road forward lies in conducting negotiations in which all parties concerned take part, and making progress through these negotiations. The British minister dealt with the AWACS aircraft deal and he expressed pleasure at the U.S. Government's decision to sell these aircraft to the Kingdom. He also explained that Britain was prepared to sell the similar Nimrod aircraft should the AWACS deal fall through.

Carrington Ends Visit

LD050952 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0905 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Riyadh, 5 Nov (SPA) -- British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington left Riyadh this morning at the end of his 3-day visit during which he held talks with Foreign Minister His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal on matters concerning the Middle East region.

Prince Faysal and Lord Carrington held a press conference just before the British official's departure, they dealt with a number of international issues and bilateral relations.

RIYADH COMMENTARY VIEWS CARRINGTON TALKS

LD042230 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Commentary by Husayn al-Askari]

[Text] In Riyadh, Saudi-British talks on developments in the Middle East within the context of the search for a just and lasting solution, in which the Palestinians themselves are the starting point, have begun.

Observers attach importance to the meeting of Lord Carrington, British foreign secretary and president of the EEC commission, with Saudi leaders on the grounds that the circumstances of this meeting provide many opportunities for agreement between the Arab position and that of Britian and its partners in the EEC; the latter being characterized by the desire to reach a formula for an agreement which could allow the achievement of a just and comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The basis of this solution should be the realization of the Palestinian people's right to set up their own independent state.

It is clear from the statements of the British foreign secretary on the eve of his departure for Riyadh that more serious and convincing ideas about the need to reach a solution are now held by British officials, a matter which he disclosed before the supporters of Israel in the conservative party. Recently, Lord Carrington clearly said that the PLO should be a party to the peace talks in the region and that peace could not be achieved without this. Answering the cries of his critics, the British secretary said we should all face up to this fact.

Here emerges a serious desire to deal with facts which cannot be ignored. And, when Lord Carrington expresses this conviction and asks its critics to be more realistic, this frankly means that the international community, in which the EEC occupies a distinguished place, is now convinced that the time has come to deal with the facts, foremost of which is taking into consideration the rights of the Palestinians as a basis and starting point towards any solution.

The fact that Lord Carrington's visit coincided with growing support for the Saudi initiative submitted His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz gives the impression that this visit shall have effective and influential results on the grounds that the ideas submitted by the crown prince constituted a practical alternative and a more realistic and comprehensive one to other submitted plans, whose sterility and uselessness were proved because they did not deal with the facts.

From this reality it is possible to say with confidence that the future shall be more and more fruitful. This is because the convictions of the friends of the Palestinian cause have entered a phase of real and practical implementation in what they are striving to achieve for the sake of a just and lasting peace in the region. And to this, the Saudi leadership is devoting all its time and efforts.

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON CARRINGTON VISIT

LD051240 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] His Royal Highness Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal this morning held a press conference at the end of the visit by British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington. He said he conducted talks with the British minister concentrating on EEC efforts to establish peace in the Middle East, in addition to the Arab efforts to find a solution to the Middle East problem. He added that the talks also dealt with bilateral relations; he described the talks as useful and constructive.

In reply to a question about the Kingdom's recognition of Israel as pointed out in article 7 of the Saudi peace plan, His Royal Highness said there was a firm link between article 7 and other articles; the important point is recognizing the Palestinian state and conducting negotiations between the Palestinian state and Israel. This would not take place unless each side recognized the other. His Royal Highness stressed that Israel rejects the Saudi peace plan because it does not want peace in the region. As for article 7 of the plan, it is quite clear. Concerning the Kingdom's policy calling for a complete Israeli withdrawal from the Arab territories, and the establishment of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital, His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said that UN Resolution No 242 -- which Israel accepted -- indeed called for an Israeli withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied since 1967, but Israel obstructs any solution that would bring peace to the region.

To a question concerning his highness's visualization of the role that Britain and the European states could play in order to widen the scope of negotiations for the holding of a conference with the Soviet Union and the PLO, his highness stressed that the Kingdom already declared its position to the Venice conference, and said that it was an enccuraging factor that could constitute a basis for negotiations.

His highness stressed that one objective of Lord Carrington's visit was to find out how far the Venice Declaration accords with the Saudi peace plan, which underlines the possibility of reaching a comprehensive settlement. Negotiations can be held concerning this matter [of a comprehensive settlement] at the [UN] Security Council or at any other international conference in order to secure international guarantees, so far no agreed upon.

He expressed his conviction that the Security Council could be the adequate place for providing a useful role in this respect, even with the participation of the Soviet Union, which is a member of the Security Council.

His royal highness the foreign minister stressed that all Palestinians who were driven out of their homes should be given every chance to go back; this is what the United Nations called for, but Israel rejects this.

In reply to a question about Israel's rejection of the Kingdom's call to set up a Palestinian state with Jerusalem its capital, his royal highness said that Israel, rejects everything, but if it accepted the declared principles and entered into negotiations, then it would be possible to achieve results.

Regarding his royal highness's expectations with regard to the Arab countries' support for the Saudi peace plan, his royal highness explained that at the last meeting in At-Ta'if by the Arabian Gulf states, the eight points in the Saudi peace plan were approved; the states which attended that meeting will put these points before the Fes Arab summit conference. We hope for an Arab approval of the Saudi peace plan and we are optimistic in this regard after the reactions which the Kingdom had from the Arab world, in particular from the Palestinians. Replying to a question about who is to represent the Arab side in the negotiations, he said the PLO would represent the Palestinians and the Arab countries would be represented by their governments.

To a question on his highness's comment on the American position on the Saudi peace plan, and on whether the United States could prompt Israel into being more flexible, his highness the foreign minister said: We hope to see more of the positive position of the American side to the Saudi peace plan.

Replying to a question on Saudi reaction to the participation of European forces in the peace-keeping force due to be stationed in the Sinai, His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal expressed the hope to see the already announced European initiative remain independent from Camp David, because participation of European forces in the Sinai would mean taking part in carrying out the two Camp David agreements, and such participation would never get the support of the Arab side.

To a question on what the Kingdom would do after convening the Arab summit meeting due to be held in Fes in order to secure the support of the United Nations for the Saudi peace plan, his highness said that it depends on the results of the meeting to make further moves to obtain an international decision.

His highness denied the contents of a question on whether there were contacts with the new Egyptian regime, and on the chances of Egypt's return to the Arab fold. He said: There were no contacts between the Kingdom and Egypt, but this does not mean that there is no hope for the Arabs and Egypt to solve their differences.

Replying to a question about what Washington would do concerning the Saudi peace plan, he said if the Arabs approved the plan at the Fes summit conference, this would be an encouraging element. This matter concerns the United States, which is seeking to establish peace in the region; we hope it will support the plan and we also hope for support from all.

Replying to question about whether the Kingdom would be discussing the plan with U.S. President Ronald Reagan, his royal highness said that at present we shall be putting the plan before the Arab summit; the matter is left to the conference after that. Replying to a question about the victory which the Kingdom scored by obtaining the AWACS deal and also the OPEC agreement on a unified oil price, he said that His Royal Highness the Minister of Defense and Aviation Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz referred to the AWACS issue at the time; we view with satisfaction the decision by the U.S. Senate to approve the AWACS deal and we appreciate the efforts which President Reagan made in this respect. He added: If there was a victory in this issue, it goes to President Reagan for his efforts and also for relations between the two countries. As for the OPEC decision, it is worth mentioning that the OPEC states have common interests and we work for the interests of the OPEC states and for the interests of the world economy; if there was a victory at the last meeting it was a victory for all.

Replying to question about how he explained the Soviet Union's silence about the Saudi plan, his royal highness stressed that the Soviet stance is important at the international level, and in connection with the middle East; the Kingdom hopes that the Soviet stance will be effective to a large degree and will be based on the foundation of right and justice. We thank the past stance of the Soviets in supporting the Arab states. If the Saudi plan obtains Arab support we hope that we will obtain support from the Soviet Union.

Replying to a question about the results of his talks with Lord Carrington with regard to the existence of a common ground between the Venice declaration and the Saudi peace plan, his royal highness explained that Lord Carrington gave a positive answer to this question; I share his opinion.

Replying to a question about the Gulf states' attitude toward the Iranian aggression on Kuwait, his royal highness expressed the hope that the Gulf states would be able to build strong bridges in relations with Iran and will cooperate in protecting the common interests. The principal basis of protecting the region is based on the states of the region, and Iran is a fundamental part of the region.

KUWAIT'S AS-SIYASAH INTERVIEWS DEFENSE MINISTER

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[Interview granted to AS-SIYASAH Chief Editor Ahmad al-Jarallah by Saudi Defense Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on 3 November 1981 in Riyadh]

[Excerpts] Question: Your Highness, are the AWACS so important as to warrant the financial and diplomatic effort exerted on them by Saudi Arabia?

Answer: Yes, the AWACS are even more important than that. It is sufficient to visualize their yield in terms of security. They deserve all this effort expended on them financially or diplomatically. Yes, we do need them and we know that they will provide a good return in terms of defending the Kingdom and protecting its soil and stability.

Question: Your Highness, of what benefit are these planes so long as they are going to be run by U.S. experts and so long as tough conditions are imposed on their use? What did you mean by the "pleasant conditions" you mentioned earlier? [time unspecified]

Answer: The tragedy is that our rights in the foreign press are undermined. The people don't know what is happening in the Kingdom, as if it were merely a Saudi citizen who made a mistake that was magnified in the Western press and cloaked in superstition. For your information, there are schools of military expertise in Saudi Arabia that have reached high levels. I am proud of them and hope our brothers in the Gulf states come and visit them. Toward the end of this year, the F-15 planes will arrive and will be flown in by Saudi pilots. We have 20 young men receiving training on these planes in the United States.

Furthermore, the AWACS are ordinary planes that can be commanded by any Saudi airlines pilot. What remains is the issue of the sophisticated instruments with which these planes are equipped. As I have said, we have national military expertise that can be trained further.

These planes will protect all Saudi airspace and territorial borders. These planes have a reconnaissance range of 300 miles. In the beginning training must be provided on instruments and methods of maintaining the planes. Training on the planes will be programmed so that it parallels the delivery processes. Even if additional training is required, this is not unusual and does not at all mean that foreign trainers will influence the decision of the national military command. Regarding what I said about the "pleasant conditions," I meant that we rejected all conditions that undermine our dignity or affect our sovereignty in any way.

We have accepted conditions which are, in our view, normal and applicable to every weapons-manufacturing country. Every country stipulates that the sophisticated weapons it sells will not be used by a rival country, that these weapons will not come under the control of the expertise of a country other than the producing country and that weapons will not go beyond the territorial borders of the country using them. Thus all that has been said about unusual conditions is nothing but press prattle. Arms conditions are known and accepted by all states that obtain weapons, particularly sophisticated ones.

Question: Your Highness, has the AWACS diplomatic battle any significance in the future strategy of U.S.-Arab relations? Did you have any alternatives in mind if the deal with the United States failed?

Answer: In fact we did not think of alternatives in case the deal failed because we were confident that the current U.S. leadership was being tested by pressure groups within U.S. society and with the logic and position of U.S. national interest. In my opinion, congressional approval of the AWACS deal was the most important wise decision made by U.S. policymakers. Naturally, in our opinion, this reflects the start of a new era that the Arabs must utilize. The present U.S. administration has proved that it is exercising a role in line with U.S. national interests that are related to the Arabs, something that had not occurred in the past. The U.S. administration has won the battle, and we shall not say it is Saudi Arabia that won it because what we aim to achieve is equal relations. We don't have ambitions within U.S. society as others do.

Question: Your Highness, what is the secret in the timing between the AWACS battle and Prince Fahd's initiative and also with the victory of the oil prices battle? Are these three issues connected?

Answer: We did not plan this in advance. Our request for the AWACS is old and Prince Fahd's plan is not the price of this battle. Rather it is the decision with which we wanted to declare the reality of the Arab world: that we are a people who seek true and just peace. Regarding the price issue, we here do not think of world affairs in a superficial manner. When we proposed uniting oil prices, this was the result of a concentrated study of the nature of supply and demand in the world oil market. It can be said that the connection between the three issues is the good intention which Saudi Arabia exercises in all its international policies. We follow the policy of moderation; this is the fruit of this policy and this is the will of the almighty.

Question: The size of Saudi arms together with the difference in the sources of arms among the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula states -- will this not affect defense cooperation among the group of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC]?

Answer: During the meeting of the commanders of the GCC armies which was attended by the GCC secretary general, we arrived at something which, when implemented, can be said to create an advanced defensive group. We don't believe in a merged command since the failure of that model has been demonstrated. However, we do believe in defense coordination among the GCC states.

This plan will be stronger than a merged command. Of course the variety of the arms and their sources were discussed and the results of the commanders meeting will be submitted to the next Gulf summit conference.

Question: A recent news item says there has been a dialogue between Saudi Arabia and the PRC. Is this true?

Answer: Nothing of the kind has happened. We don't impose relations but are mainly concerned with protecting these sacred lands from communist ideology or any ideology that opposes the Islamic faith. As far as the future is concerned, this is in the realm of the unseen. However, at present there are no contacts on the level of displomatic representation with China or with the Soviets. We don't deny the existence of these states in terms of traditional international concepts. We do have commercial transactions with these states on the basis of purely economic and commercial dealings.

Question: Your Highness, what is the nature of your relations with the YAR following its rapprochement with the Soviet Union?

Answer: Our relations with the YAR are good on all economic and social levels. We don't oppose another state's decision to choose those with whom it wants to cooperate; that is its decision. Even if we have reservations on rapprochement with the Soviet Union, we say that national interests always necessitate a study of the nature of cooperation with any international side. We live in a region whose ideology is different from communist ideology and even completely contradicts it. Anyway, our relations with the YAR are good on all levels.

Question: Your Highness, do you think the new Egyptian president ought to be given a chance to catch his breath, or do you oppose him?

Answer: We oppose Camp David and our stand on this matter has not changed. All we hope is that the new president will do what he deems to be good for the national interests of his country and its relations with the Arab states and that he will exercise his role according to the requirements of the interests of the Arab peoples.

Question: Your Highness, some people have made Prince Fahd's initiative look as if it had offended Arab sensibilities. Some agree, some reject it and some are reserved. What will the situation be when the summit conference is held in Morocco?

Answer: Prince Fahd's initiative is a collection of principles put forward for discussion. They can be developed or amended if the Arabs wish to do so. These principles were derived from proposed international principles and from Arab views that seek a solution for the Palestinian question. The world wants to understand what the Arabs want and this is what we are trying to answer. Those who rejected the initiative, where is their alternative? Why don't they improve the initiative instead of just rejecting it?

Question: Your Highness, some Palestinians are claiming they participated in the preparation of the plan. Is this true?

Answer: This is a Saudi plan and I don't believe that anyone else participated in it. However, in our view it has not exceeded the Palestinian desire to remedy the conflict with Israel. Prince Fahd does not need anyone to tell him what is required to promote Saudi and Arab national issues.

Question: Your Highness, Iran says that you and Kuwait have been training Iraqi youths for the Iraqi Army. What is your comment?

Answer: Iraq has its own training camps and does not require any other state to help it. On its part, Saudi Arabia does not view Iraq as needing such help.

AL-MUSAWWAR INTERVIEWS FOREIGN MINISTER 'ALI

NC291410 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0945 GMT 29 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 29 Oct (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has granted an interview to AL-MUSAWWAR magazine to be published Friday, in which he dealt with the questions of autonomy, the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai, the Egyptian diplomatic moves, the Egyptian-Arab relations and Egypt's relations with the United States and the Soviet Union.

At the outset of the interview 'Ali emphasized that the Egyptian Armed Forces were the real guardian of the revolution during the era of the late leader As-Sadat and that they will maintain their mission under the era of President Husni Mubarak.

He added: At the time of deep grief, when the rancorous imagined that Egypt would be struck by paralysis, confusion and chaos, the Egyptian people acted splendidly. The senior officials of the sons of Egypt, led by President Husni Mubarak, were eager to transfer power by constitutional means in record time. This has eliminated all the fears surrounding the tragedy of the loss of President as-Sadat. It has also astonished those who made pessimistic calculations, all of which were completely defeated, as were the traitors who sought to hurt Egypt.

He stressed that the Egyptian people's support of President Husni Mubarak's declared policy denotes that the Egyptian political leadership is humming to the people's demands and that it is Egypt's successful leadership that harmonizes policy with the Egyptian people's demands and feelings.

On the meetings of the joint committee for transferring the rest of Sinai, 'Ali pointed out that the meeting of this committee was one of the decisions made at President as-Sadat's and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin's meeting in Sharm ash-Shaykh. This was decided at a working lunch and was an affirmation by Begin that the Israeli withdrawal will be completed as scheduled on 25 April 1982.

He added: Hence, a higher committee was set up to take over the rest of Sinai. It met in Cairo from 19 to 22 August and agreed to set up two committees: One civilian committee under the Foreign Ministry and another for completing the withdrawal from Sinai. It was agreed that the joint military committee will assume this task. Subcommittees have been formed within the civilian committees to promote the normalization process in the fields of transport, communications, passports, nationality, agriculture, police and trade. The Israeli tourism minister has been in Cairo for 1 week for detailed discussions on exchanging information, on agreeing on international points of entry between the two countries and on tourism organization and so forth.

The civilian authorities will take over zone "C" of the Sinai, which according to the treaty is 20-40 km wide, east of Palestine under the Mandate, and extends along the Gulf of 'Aqabah up to Ra's Muhammad and an area west of zone "C" between zones "C" and "A".

'Ali added that in accordance with the first meetings of the higher committee, agreements were actually reached in almost all the subcommittees. The 'Aqabah region was surveyed on 15 October, that is, 2 weeks ago. Another committee is expected to conduct another survey on 2 November. The higher committee, which will meet under the chairmanship of Ari'el Sharon on the Israeli side and Kamal Hasan 'Ali on the Egyptian side, will review the findings of the subcommittee and an agreement will be reached on the next steps in relation to the details of the transfer operation of the rest of Sinai.

Asked about the recent autonomy discussions in Tel Aviv, 'Ali said: As agreed in the negotiations of 23 and 24 September in Mena House, the autonomy talks are continuing at the level of the working groups which started their first meeting from 21 to 29 October in Tel Aviv.

The delegations can meet at the ministerial level to review the work of these committees. It would be appropriate that this took place after the second meeting set for the first half of November -- that is 10 days separating the two meetings, to make it possible to followup the work of the working groups and the progress they have achieved.

He added: The most important topics in our discussions are the responsibilities and powers and a review of the progress in the autonomy talks during the last 2 years as well as completing the talks on the responsibilities and powers until we arrive at the declaration of principles. We hope this will be done as planned.

On the possibility of making progress in the autonomy negotiations before January when President Husni Mubarak will visit the United States, 'Ali affirmed that this depends on the progress made by the working groups on subjects they had for discussion, such as the elections and their procedures and to whom these will be applied and so forth.

Dealing with the current U.S. attitude, 'Ali said that the martyrdom of leader Anwar as-Sadat had had great impact on the U.S. Administration and that there were views on the possibility of foreign interference in Egypt. On this basis the U.S. Administration wanted to show its degree of seriousness to the Egyptian people and its new leadership in confronting any interference in the Middle East on one hand, and on the other, the United States has the role of a full partner as it clearly declared recently. It also declared the necessity to reach a real settlement that will achieve a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East and the necessity to arrive at this in parallel with the strategic demands in the area in relation to confronting foreign interferences.

He added concerning the discussions on Jerusalem this week that some noted the paper presented by head of the U.S. side Sol Linowitz to the new U.S. Administration. However, Israel did not approve of this paper and we opposed it more than Israel because it was not in line with the demands for the full autonomy as stipulated in Camp David. We opposed Sol's paper because it both ignored the autonomy legislative and judicial powers and failed to outline the most important subjects such as the extent of the Palestine authority, the status of settlements and Arab Jerusalem.

Asked about the reference made in the electoral manifesto of Begin's government concerning the West Bank and the settlements, 'Ali said: Egypt is not concerned about the electoral manifesto as we discuss only what has been raised at the negotiating table.

Answering a question about the new diplomatic move, 'Ali said: The Egyptian political line has not changed, nor has the plan or the map of our diplomatic move changed. I can say that our activity has increased as a result of the new situation following the assassination of the martyr president and the various stands and several reactions by some states following the incident. There must be a move in the African sphere to confront the threats which Al-Qadhdhafi presents against several African countries such as the Niger, Central Africa, Uganda and the Sudan. This move includes reconsideration of the African summit resolution on holding the next conference in Tripoli.

He added: We will quickly move in Europe to explore the dimensions of the European position toward peace in the Middle East so as to coordinate our stands since the goal is one and the same. We will maintain our moves in the Asian states which are interested in security, stability and peace in the Middle East. This will be a followup of my visit to the Far East last September when we made preparations for President as-Sadat's tour which was set for 9 November. The three states -- Japan, the PRC and the DPRK, which would have welcomed President as-Sadat, have addressed the invitation to President Husni Mubarak. President Husni Mubarak has received other invitations from the United States, West Germany, France and Italy. President Husni Mubarak's tour is now being prepared.

Commenting on PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's recent visit to Japan, 'Ali said that Japan was putting Middle East peace at the top of its foreign policy priorities. It fully supports Camp David and supports Prince Fahd's initiative. This was not inconsistent with the Egyptian policy in principle. The Japanese officials received Yasir 'Arafat -- although he was not an official guest -- and obtained from him a statement approving of Prince Fahd's initiative. However, Yasir 'Arafat denied this on his return to Damascus as a result of Syrian pressure on him. 'Ali noted that the political commentators in Japan have described 'Arafat's behavior in this respect as a folly.

Discussing the European initiative concerning the participation of some common market states in the peacekeeping force, 'Ali affirmed that this was an encouraging thing in driving on the peace process.

He added that this was because the European states support the peace efforts and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, and it was logical for them to contribute toward its implementation as long as the United Nations failed in adopting a resolution on its participation in this force. It was necessary, therefore, to show some European unanimity, particularly since this unanimity would contribute toward the success of the peace initiative. It will logically give a practical example to all the free world states which supported the initiative at the beginning and which must continue to support it until it achieves all its objectives.

On a similar role by the Scandinavian countries, 'Ali said: Norway has decided to provide a commander for the forces. It appears that this was assigned to it by the Scandinavian member states [as received] of the EEC. The European initiative may be adopted by the Scandinavian community through the European member states. However, some European countries, other than the EEC member states, have expressed good feelings. Switzerland, for example, has no army in the conventional sense because it is a neutral state. Switzerland has expressed its readiness to join with medical units, not in its capacity as the headquarters of the International Red Cross but as Switzerland.

Answering a question about the recent Soviet contact with Egypt, 'Ali said that the Soviet Union had sent condolences on the death of President Anwar as-Sadat and Brezhnev had sent a letter of congratulations to President Husni Mubarak and the Soviet Union said that it was prepared for a dialogue if we asked that.

In this respect he said: Our general policy is that we will not seek estrangement with any state and we welcome the presence of good relations and cooperation with all world states, provided that they do not interfere in our domestic affairs or those of others and that the relations are on an equal footing regardless of the size of the state because Egypt has always been proud of being the master of its free will. As it does not interfere in the affairs of others, Egypt will not allow others to interfere in its own affairs.

Concerning the relations with the Arab states, 'Ali said: We have not boycotted the Arabs. When some Arabs started contacting us or making moderate statements toward us, they demanded that Egypt give up the peace process -- a matter calling for astonishment. It even calls for disgust because Egypt will not abandon its international committments and because the policy which Egypt has been following was a popular demand and was, at the same time, a policy stemming from a historical visualization. Events have proved that the peaceful solution of the Middle East problems was the only course for peaceful coexistence and for obtaining the Arab rights in the area. It has also been established that Egypt was the only state which carried out its military role throughout 30 years.

He added that Egypt is the only state which has been carrying out a main political role in seeking the Arab rights and the stability of the area proceeding from the principle of Egypt's pan-Arab responsibility.

It is the same principle that made Egypt support the AWACS deal and the same principle that Egypt will adopt in implementing the Arab states collective security pact if requested. In other words, Egypt's firm strategy toward the Arab world has not changed with the Arab states changing their attitude toward Egypt. Our policy is firm and stable and there will be no turning back or bargaining on it.

On the possibility of convening a tripartite summit among Egypt, the United States and Israel before 25 April -- the date of the final withdrawal from Sinai -- 'Ali said that the withdrawal was one thing and the autonomy talks something else. Some Israeli papers have reiterated that Israel was seeking to link the two -- the talks and the withdrawal -- but head of the Israeli delegation Dr Burg has denied this. I believe that after the discussion of most subjects of autonomy, a tripartite summit may be convened when some problems or points at the ministerial level can only be settled at a tripartite summit. The U.S. Administration is continuing its contacts with the Arab parties to learn all their views. He added: The qeustion about the summit is premature, although it may be reasonable to raise this in January.

Concluding his interview, 'Ali dealt with the U.S. Administration's move to confront the Libyan danger on the security of the region. He said: U.S. public opinion is convinced that the subversive role that is being carried out by Al-Qadhdhafi has exceeded all limits against the Free World states and against his neighbors. The international terrorism that Al-Qadhdhafi is sponsoring and financing is threatening the stability of many states. Consequently, the states concerned about stability have combined their efforts to ward off this danger and to repel it. They are doing this by preventing arms deals to Libya or deals for training its forces which craves Libyan funds, because this danger has exceeded any benefit to any of these states. The United States is now considering boycotting Libyan oil and there are contacts making the boycott a collective one by the oil-importing countries. The world has now a surplus in storage. If the boycott were applied, the Libyan people will suffer a great deal.

AS-SIYASAH INTERVIEWS FOREIGN MINISTER 'ALI

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[Interview with Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, by Muhammed Zayn in Cairo -- date not given]

[Text] Question: Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, began his interview with me in his office by expressing his feelings on President Anwar as-Sadat's assassination.

Answer: It is tragic and regrettable. It was totally unexpected under those circumstances, in that place and on that date. However, the hand of fate is everywhere. Blind behavior exists everywhere -- in thought, action and motive. All this exists in our contemporary world. It exists in many parts of the world, from the United States to the most distant country in Asia. There is no doubt that the elements that carry out such actions are misled and are imbued with mistaken ideas. It is regrettable that As-Sadat, who gave a great deal to his people and to his Arab homeland -- and the effect of what he has given will be seen in history -- was assassinated. However, this is God's will and we must accept the will of the Almighty. We have to treat this as a universal and contemporary phenomenon.

Question: Do you believe that [As-Sadat's ties with] the United States led to his assassination?

Answer: This view has been voiced -- even in the United States. Let us go back a little. During the Camp David negotiations, the question of seriousness and speed in implementation was discussed. The question of war between Egypt and Israel was linked with the implementation of the first step toward resolving the Palestinian question.

The outcome of the Camp David negotiations endorse the points in UN Security Council Resolution 242 that are included in the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. These points are the question of linkage and the call to take the Palestinian people's rights into consideration and to allow them to participate in the agenda for autonomy talks. There was an itinerary according to which autonomy talks would begin 1 month after the ratification of the treaty by the two countries -- for we refused to allow this matter to remain floating for a year. In other words, we stipulated that this should take place prior to the final withdrawal from Egyptian territory. However, undoubtedly there have been delays and postponements. Whether this was deliberate or not the issue itself is not deliberate.

There is no doubt that what happened was one of the matters approved by some youths who have deviated -- although the aims of this deviation were much greater. It was a deviation that included a plan to seize power in Egypt, similar to what happened in Iran and elsewhere. Of course, on this basis we can say that one of the factors was the postponement and delay in achieving a suitable solution to the autonomy issue.

Question: Do you believe that foreign parties and powers had a hand in the assassination?

Answer: Investigations so far have not shown that foreign hands or even foreign finance were involved. Evidence so far shows that the assassination was planned and carried out by only a few persons. It is known that last September the late president received security information on the roots and training of this group.

Question: Some Israelis fear that As-Sadat's death will lead to a change in Egypt's policy toward Israel. The Israeli press has reported that the Israelis are very worried about a possible failure in Egyptian-Israeli relations.

Answer: This is the opinion of some people, particularly those who are skeptical of the Israeli Government. What happened showed once more that the Egyptian people support their leadership and that this leadership cannot be easily swayed. This is Egypt's will and Egypt's policy toward peace. It is a popular Egyptian policy and not the policy of one person or one government that comes and then goes. This was demonstrated in the results of the recent referendum. The largest number of people in Egyptian history went to the polls to cast their votes for President Husni Mubarak. This indicates that the Egyptian people are interested in only two things: implementing Egypt's foreign policy and combatting extremism and perversion. This is what the Egyptian people who went to the polls wanted to say. It was a true expression of the Egyptian people's will. Egypt's policy is frank and clear and has received overwhelming support. Approximately 10 million people supported this policy, while only 146,000 persons opposed it. This naturally ensures that our foreign policy is not accidental or narrow.

Question: Is there an unannounced U.S.-Soviet agreement on the Middle East issue? What is your opinion on the idea that there is a major plot in Egypt aimed at preventing Egypt from acquiring its proper place?

Answer: I do not believe this. I do not believe that there is an agreement between the two superpowers on the Middle East issue or on the countries of the entire Middle East. We can see this by the Soviet Union's unilateral move in Afghanistan. Furthermore, the Soviet Union's attempt to move into the Gulf proves my view on this point. I do not believe that the United States -- which is trying to acquire facilities in Arab territory, whether in Egypt, Oman, Somalia or Sudan -- has signed a secret agreement on the region with the Soviets. We know that the interests of the United States, Japan and Western Europe are enormous and determine the course of Western civilization. I do not believe that such interests can allow for any kind of understanding between the two superpowers. Consequently, I do not find any reason for Egypt to reach such a conclusion. As you know, Egypt is the military and manpower strength of the Arab world. Egypt will continue its role despite any attempts to reduce its influence. On this basis, Egypt's role in maintaining the stability of the region is a basic one. Supporting and aiding Egypt militarily and financially will assist it in countering the irresponsible behavior of some countries in Africa. It is also clear that Egypt's stand has been a factor in maintaining Sudan's stability on the one hand and the stability of some African countries on the other. Egypt -- with its current position and strength -- is a factor for stability in Arab and African countries.

Question: What is Egypt's view of Fahd's plan, and is it prepared to agree with it?

Answer: Egypt has not said it rejects the plan. We believe that the permanent framework for resolving the Palestinian question, which was agreed upon at Camp David, is the most effective thing we have. It does not contradict the final solution for Palestinian self-determination. It draws a framework for the next transition period and ends the sufferings of the people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip -- for the Israeli forces there are occupation forces. Egypt does not object to any other approach provided that all the parties sit down and negotiate these objectives. There is a Soviet view that has been proposed by Brezhnev. There is a view that has been proposed by President Ceausescu. There is also Prince Fahd's view. There are also the 10 countries [presumably the EEC countries] and each of them has final objectives. But how and when? What method shall we define for negotiating with the parties concerned, and with whom shall we negotiate? What is the Palestinians' stand on this? Yasir 'Arafat declared in Japan that he agrees with Prince Fahd's initiative. Which do you choose: Mr. 'Arafat's statement or the stand of some of the [Palestinian] organizations, which reject this initiative. We must reach an agreement, and we must negotiate to arrive at a final agreement.

Question: Do you believe that the Israelis will not withdraw from Sinai as scheduled on 25 April? What will be the results of such a development?

Answer: First, I do not believe that such a thing will happen, because any violation of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty will endanger peace -- and no one can bear this after all that has happened. Therefore, there are U.S. and Israeli assurances that the withdrawal will take place on 25 April 1982, God willing.

Question: Egypt has obtained the AWACS very easily, whereas Saudi Arabia is still awaiting a decision by the United States.

Answer: Egypt's obtaining the AWACS is temporary. Obtaining the AWACS for complete ownership is one thing and obtaining them for joint training is another. Moreover, Egypt cannot afford to buy the AWACS -- their price exceeds our financial resources. Therefore, we have requested less sophisticated planes. As for Saudi Arabia, it will be buying the AWACS -- and ownership through buying is totally different from a temporary presence that soon ends. Let me say here that the AWACS issue has also become a symbolic issue for cooperation between the United States and the moderate Arab countries -- to have them or not to have them will mean a great deal.

Question: Do you believe that the differences between some Arab countries and Egypt were personal and connected with Anwar as-Sadat personally?

Answer: It is not a question of individuals. The Arab countries must be fully aware that strategic matters are not affected by persons. There can be a deterioration or a relaxation in relations among individuals, but differences should not be personal.

Question: How can the tense relations between you and the Arab world be eased?

Answer: This is very simple. The differences in views that have occured since 1977 are regrettable but do not justify severing relations or the fierce war against Egypt. Thus, it is a simple matter if each party is positive in its approach and is farsighted. Another point we should remember is that Egypt's policy stems from a popular consensus and is not an isolated presidential decision. As long as everyone is agreed that peace is one of the common objectives, the unification of ranks becomes a simple procedural matter, so long as there are good intentions.

MUBARAK ADDRESSES U.S. BUSINESSMEN DELEGATION

NC011256 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1030 GMT 1 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 1 Nov (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this morning met with a delegation of senior U.S. businessmen and directors of major firms and auto companies in the United States. The 87-member delegation is headed by Henry Grunwald and includes the chairman of the board of directors of TIME and senior TIME correspondents abroad. The visit comes within the framework of the annual tours of the Middle East organized by TIME magazine for important businessmen.

At the beginning of the meeting President Muhammad Husni Mubarak addressed the delegation. The following is the text of his speech.

I welcome you in Cairo as friends and partners. I wish you could have stayed longer to know more about this country, its people and its aspirations. Let us hope that you will do that in the future. I do not intend to lecture you or make a speech. I will just explain some simple points. The ministers will be ready to answer your questions on the economy.

As you know, we suffered considerably after the assassination of the president who was a unique statesman with vision and courage. We are comforted by the fact that the America people share our feelings of grief and pain.

As-Sadat was assassinated by a small extremist group which came under misguiding influence. It was a small group of army men and limited number of civilians. Certainly, that criminal act does not reflect the popular feelings, because the armed forces support the regime and every Egyptian regrets and condemns the acts of violence and terrorism. This phenomenon is alien to our society. We are a peaceful nation and we hold human values sacred. This is why it did not take us long to bring the situation under control. It was a warning to us. We can see now that matters have returned to normal.

We intend to follow the same policy of the Egyptian people. It was not the policy of one man. Peace is important to us and the people want to continue with the peace process to the maximum. The normalization with Israel is proceeding well without any problems. We have been informed by Israel and the United States that the withdrawal will be completed in accordance with the agreement we signed. The situation in the region is generally improving, and we are optimistic about peace and stability. We are participating in the autonomy negotiations with complete resolve and determination. Our aim is to arrive at an agreement on principles and it is up to the Palestinians to negotiate the details with the Israelis at a later stage. Egypt and the United States will both be willing to help. The final picture is left to the Palestinians. We will not exchange violent criticism or attacks with any state. We have not stood in the way of the efforts of these states for peace. On the contrary, we urge our Arab brothers to shoulder the responsibility as we have.

As far as economic affairs are concerned we are pleased about the stabilization in the oil prices, which it was announced will continue until the end of next year. On the other hand we are determined to continue with our open-door policy to attract foreign investments. We hope that the American investors will respond more. We have introduced facilities under our laws and has given more powers to the investment authority.

I ask you to provide more to help us increase our production. I sense the great importance of matters related to the transfer of technology. We would like hear your observations or problems. It is important to us that you increase your participation with us in our common interest.

After President Mubarak's speech, a dialogue took place between his excellency and members of the U.S. delegation. The dialogue was attended by Deputy Prime Minister for Economic and Financial Affairs Dr 'Abd ar-Razzq 'Abd al-Majid, Minister of State for Economy Dr Sulayman Nur ad-Din and Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz. The dialogue dealt with some economic aspects and development and investment issues in Egypt. It also dealt with Egypt's needs from the United States to do away with bureaucracy, increase the development rates and overcome its major problems.

The dialogue also dealt with the Middle East issue, normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel, the Palestinian autonomy problem, timing of the Palestinians' participation in the autonomy negotiations and who would represent them and the Saudi role and some of the encouraging points in it which could be the subject of negotiation in the future.

During the meeting, members of the U.S. delegation asked about the situation between Egypt and the Arab states and the statement by his excellency that he was prepared to go to Saudi Arabia if this would contribute to solving the Middle East issue. The delegation members also inquired about the situation along the western Egyptian-Libyan border and what is anticipated in the Iraqi-Iranian war.

The dialogue also dealt with President as-Sadat's assassination, the security measures in Egypt and the difference between the nature of the Egyptian people and some other peoples who are inclined toward violence, such as Iran and Iraq.

The dialogue also broached the recent U.S. Senate approval of the AWACS deal with Saudi Arabia and the reasons these planes are important to Saudi Arabia and the United States. The dialogue further dealt with Egypt's stand, which was announced by the departed leader, on the nonestablishment of permanent U.S. bases in Egypt and why the presence of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force is important to the Middle East region and to the areas where it is proposed to deploy these forces and their equipment. The meeting lasted 1 hour.

QATAR PROPOSES SUPPORTING MUBARAK ON SINAI

NC051118 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1030 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 5 Nov (MENA) -- In its edition to be published tomorrow, the magazine AL-MUSAWWAR reports that Qatar has prepared a paper for submission to the Gulf cooperation summit supporting President Husni Mubarak in the present phase on the basis that the continuing opposition means asking Egypt to give up Sinai, a matter unacceptable to the Egyptian people and incompatible with any logic.

The paper will also outline that the autonomy discussions that will follow the withdrawal will stop because of the negative Israeli attitude and Egypt will have no responsibility toward the international community.

The magazine notes that the Palestinian and the rejectionist forces are attempting to foil the Qatari proposal exploiting their influence over the information media.

AUTHORITIES SEIZE PRESSES, ARREST 18 SUSPECTS

NC050931 Cairo MENA in English 0915 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 5 Nov (MENA) -- The security authorities yesterday seized three presses the terrorists had used in printing leaflets inciting sectarian sedition and all other subversive leaflets, reports AL-AKHBAR in its banner headline and leading front-page story.

The authorities also arrested eighteen new suspects implicated by the confessions of the terrorists held in custody.

Two of the presses were seized in Bulaq ad-Dakrur and Al-Matariyah, suburbs of Cairo, it transpired that the leaflets distributed in Az-Zawiyah al-Hamra' and a number of other sectarian sedition incidents were printed with these presses, as well as leaflets distributed in various governorates.

AL-AKHBAR learns that the suspects arrested yesterday were surprised to find that the leaders of the terrorists organisation had implicated them in their confessions, the freshly arrested suspects declared that the leaders of the organisation had duped them in the name of religion but that they now realised that the objectives of their conspiracy were alien to the true meaning of religion.

MUBARAK MEETS PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY OPPOSITION

PM041703 Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 2 Nov 81 p 1

[Unattributed report: "President Mubarak Debates Emergency Law With Mumtaz Nassar"]

[Text] President Husni Mubarak last week met with the independent opposition leaders in the People's Assembly. The 1 and 3/4-hour meeting was attended by Counselor Mumtaz Nassar, Dr Ibrahim 'Awwarah and Hamid Karim.

People's Assembly Counselor Mumtaz Nassar told AL-AHRAR after the meeting that President Mubarak has shown full understanding of the opposition's constructive role in consolidating democracy.

He added: President Mubarak believes that the opposition should participate in the discussion of the major national issues before they are submitted to the constitutional institutions and that the opposition should in return rise to the national level, because the majority and the opposition are responsible for the homeland's destiny.

Counselor Mumtaz Nassar added to AL-AHRAR that he found President Mubarak concerned with the consolidation of security and stability. The president has asked everybody to stand by him and to help him in achieving this goal. The independent opposition leaders promised the president to stand by him.

Counselor Nassar said: The president is very determined to uproot corruption wherever and at whatever level it exists and to provide all means of prosperity for the citizens. The president has asked everybody to play their part fully in building and construction, because Egypt is above everybody.

At the end of the meeting, President Mubarak told Counselor Nassar: The period of 1 month which you suggested in the People's Assembly for the Emergency Law is not sufficient for the consolidation of the desired stability.

Counselor Nassar replied by saying that what he meant was that the emergency period should end by the end of its exigencies. President Husni Mubarak endorsed this view.

MUBARAK, 'ALI RECEIVES AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS

NC041544 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has received Mr (Wincher), president of the American Jewish Society.

(Wincher) said after the meeting that President Mubarak spoke about Egypt's determination to carry on with the peace process affirming that the Egyptian people are adhering to peace. He described President Mubarak as a man with a strong personality, sharp intellect and complete self-confidence who is well-versed in the affairs of the region. President Mubarak also received the Misr Bank Board Chairman Ahmad Fu'ad.

Ali Meeting

NC022034 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1925 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 2 Nov (MENA) -- Today, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali met for 1 and 1/2 hours with the 24-member delegation of the Amercian Jewish Societies, headed by Rabbi Irwin Kranz, currently visiting Cairo. At the beginning of the meeting, 'Ali praised the relations between the American and Egyptian peoples. He spoke of the ease of the transfer of power in Egypt after the death of leader Anwar as-Sadat, attributing this to the presence of integrated constitutional institutions. He stressed the continuation of the peace process in accordance with Egypt's firm policy.

'Ali reviewed the peace march since the signing of the Camp David agreements. He said that the normalization of relations is proceeding well and that both sides honor their pledges. 'Ali said that reconciliation with the Arabs will not be at the expense of the peace process or Egypt's relations with Israel. He stressed the need for continuing the peace process based on the Camp David accords, which constitute the actual fact available so far. He said: At the same time, we welcome any positive initiatives regarding peace in the area.

Speaking about the autonomy talks, 'Ali said: They will be resumed at the tripartite ministerial level in Cairo on 11 November. He pointed to the importance of a flexible Israeli position vis-a-vis these negotiations, particularly at the present time. He stressed the importance of Israel's taking confidence-building measures in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to encourage the Palestinians to participate in the talks and the peace process.

FRG ENVOY BRIEFS PRESS ON MEETING WITH MUBARAK

NC041346 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] President Husni Mubarak today received FRG Ambassador in Cairo Hans-Joachim Hille. After the 1-hour meeting, the ambassador said that President Mubarak briefed him on his evaluation of the Middle East situation, the steps pertaining to the establishment of peace in the area, the autonomy negotiations and subjects which concern the two countries.

The German ambassador, asked whether his talks with President Mubarak touched upon Prince Fahd's visit to Germany, replied: We touched upon this. However, it was not the main topic of discussion.

On economic cooperation between the two countries, he said that the two countries will sign an economic cooperation agreement for 1982 next month. He said that an agreement was signed with Egypt for 1981 valued at DM 290 million. He added that the forthcoming visit by Dr 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid minister of planning, finance and economy to Germany will deal with points of view in connection with economic cooperation between the two countries.

On nuclear cooperation, the ambassador said: We held negotiations on the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes in light of the cooperation between the two countries. On his evaluation of the European efforts that are being exerted for the sake of peace, he said that the participation of some European forces in the multinational force is considered a participation by them in the efforts that are being exerted for the sake of peace.

Moreover, his excellency received APPSO Secretary General 'Abd ar-Rahman ash-Sharqawi. The president also received a delegation of the merchants trade union council under Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz Hijazi.

MUBARAK RECEIVES, ADDRESSES BUSINESS DELEGATION

NC041747 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today received businessmen doyen 'Abd al-'Aziz Hijazi and a delegation representing the businessmen's union. Salah Radwan reports on the highlights of the meeting:

[Begin recording] During the meeting the president explained the current domestic policies of Egypt. On the domestic policy, he emphasized that all citizens are equal under the law, that there is no difference between master and subject and that there will be no more indiscipline. He also underlined the importance of production for Egypt's economy and its growth.

Referring to those held in custody, his excellency affirmed that anyone not proven guilty will be released immediately.

He also spoke about topics related to economic open-door policy, consumption and foreign trade in general. The president explained the ideas he outlined in his speech to the People's Assembly. On foreign policy he stressed that Egypt now follows the same line of the late leader Anwar As-Sadat. [end recording]

WAR PRODUCTION COOPERATION REVIEWED WITH BRITAIN

NC022040 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Text] Minister of State for War Production Dr Jamal ad-Din as-Sayyid today received the British Defense Ministry deputy under secretary for the affairs of war production who is now visiting Cairo.

MENA has learned that the minister of state for war production reviewed with the British official the British-Egyptian cooperation program in the field of transferring war technology to Egypt, particularly in the field of producing heavy guns and armored cars and modifying Russian tanks used by our armed forces.

ABU GHAZALAH DISCUSSES MILITARY ISSUES, AWACS

NC311615 Cairo MENA in English 1545 GMT 31 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 31 Oct (MENA) -- Lieutenant General 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, minister of defense and military production, made an address here today at the Cairo conference on strategic directions and the first Cairo military exposition.

The minister welcomed delegates on behalf of the Ministry of Defense and Military Production and the Egyptian Armed Forces. He said work to organise the conference and the exposition began in May this year with the cooperation of Mr Gregory Coprick, chairman of defense and foreign affairs publications. We deeply appreciate the long and hard work done since then which resulted in this distinguished gathering of highly qualified defense industrialists from friendly countries, top-level specialists and speakers, he said.

He added that when the sad moment came with the death of the great President as-Sadat, our hero of war and peace, we considered postponing this conference and exposition. After a thorough assessment, the Egyptian side decided to go on with the conference and the exposition.

This decision was taken not only because we are fully aware of how much effort, time and money such activities caused, but also because we are fully aware that they are some of the fruits of late President as-Sadat's wise and courageous policy of the diversification of the sources of weapons, which brings us all here today.

His Excellency President Husni Mubarak, supreme commander of the Egyptian Armed Forces, declared that Egypt would follow President as-Sadat's course. He added that the best commemoration of our great late leader is to carry out his dreams and plans. One of President as-Sadat's great dreams was to modernise the Egyptian Armed Forces.

Your conference and the connected exposition can be considered at open door for us to learn more about the latest technological achievements of the era and to become acquainted with the new modern sophisticated equipment. The knowledge which we are going to gain within the coming few days will certainly help us to fulfill President as-Sadat's hopes. This was the basic reason we decieed to hold the conference and the exposition on the previously fixed dates. Let me ask you all kindly to stand for a minute's respect to our great leader Anwar as-Sadat.

Ladies and gentlemen:

We consider this conference and exposition as a turning point in our programmes and plans for equipping and modernising the Egyptian Armed Forces, and for the development of our military production. But this turning point cannot be realised unless all parties benefit from this scientific, technological and marketing activity. Today, and during the few coming days, we have a great opportunity to learn more about each other, to understand better each others capabilities and needs, and to accomplish these goals in a mutual and friendly way. This can be achieved through all that we hear and see together. What we will share and what we will absorb. Let me ask each of you to try seriously to benefit from this well-organised conference and exposition.

Ladies and gentlemen, we are here in a military location, with a military conference agenda, surrounded by military equipment to be studied. But to us, the word military alone does not mean war. Our goal in equipping and modernising our armed forces, training them and developing our military production is not to promote war, but to preserve peace in all directions. Preserving peace requires an adequate suitable national defence system, based mainly on modern and up-to-date armed forces. This is a basic pre-requisite to strong national political decisions. To preserve peace, our armed forces should be able to face all threats, and challenges, which we know. We in the armed forces have an obligation to be open, creative, constructive, and ready to accept appropriate advice. This conference and exposition, will help us to fulfill this obligation. At the same time, peace cannot be separated from security. Both must be pursued side by side. No nation can afford to entrust its destiny to the whims of others. Any stable regional system, therefore, requires a certain equlibrium of power and in this hot region, our security and that of our friends inside and outside the region rests ultimately on our capabilities to deter possible threats and challanges.

So our security depends to a great deal on ensuring that others have no choice but to exercise self-restraint. Therefore, it is our national and regional duty to maintain our military strength to the degree necessary to meet the security danger we face. Your conference, with its 25 papers and studies, will be of great help to us, through its wide range of exchanged views and discussions.

Mr Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I wish you a fruitful conference, and a happy stay in Egypt, and I am now ready to answer any questions.

Q: The AWACS which have been here for the past two weeks are departing today, are you happy with their mission?

A: When we asked for the AWACS to come over here, we and the United States had our plans for joint exercises here in the region. It was not to deter anyone, it was only for the purpose of exercise and training. So they are leaving, and I hope they will be back with the group of personnel from the armed forces of the United States coming very soon in order to take part in the exercises in the Cairo west area. So they will be back, but we did not bring them to deter anyone, we are capable of detering anyone, that is why you are here now in order to study how to develop our armed forces to deter anyone.

Q: What do you think of the model Hawkeye?

A: We do believe that the Hawkeye EUCZ [as received] can do the same job of the AWACS. That is why we asked for it, and we are very much happy if you have got it.

Q: What was the purpose of the AWACS' visit to Egypt?

A: I have just said that it was for training our personnel about how to cooperate with the AWACS, because when we get the EUCZ we will need this training, so we are ahead of time.

Q: Is there a relationship between the AWACS sale to Saudi Arabia and the AWACS here?

A: There is no relation between the deal of the AWACS to Saudi Arabia and the coming of the AWACS over here, because it is something that concerns the Saudis, and I have no comment on that.

Q: Do you think the threat to the Sudan has eased, the Libyan threat to the Sudan?

A: The only thing I can say is that we are happy that Al-Qadhdhafi said that he is going to withdraw his troops from Chad and from our borders. We hope that he will do so, because it will ease the situation. But we cannot just relax because of a number of statements.

Q: Do you think internal problems in Chad could cause a problem among the Sudanese?

A: I do believe that any internal problems in any state in Africa could cause problems for the whole African states, because the security of Africa is one whole, and we want a stable and happy Africa.

Q: You make arms in Egypt, what are your arms exports hopes?

A: We hope that we could be, you know, at the level of making some money out of the exports of weapons, as you are doing in the states, in England or in France, or any place else. We already produce all kinds of ammunition. We are in the process of producing artillery pieces, and we are now discussing with our friends, the British, to produce some kind of armed personnel carrier. At the same time, we have had some discussions with the French too. We are on our way to produce some of the equipment needed for the Egyptian Armed Forces, and for our friends in Africa and in the region, so that we could create stability in the region, and also we could depend on ourselves in case of emergency.

Q: Does Egypt plan stepping up its arms purchases?

A: We have already discussed our purchase military programme with the United States, and we are still discussing it with England and with France.

We have already worked out our plans for the next ten years, so we are not going to ask for more. But we are going to ask for changing the schedule of delivery, moving it ahead because of the situation. You know it is a hot region, and we are facing a lot of threats around us, which everyone knows about.

Q: If you don't plan to change or add to your list of purchases, do you plan to change some of the things, because of the displays here today?

A: Of course, if we find that some of the things over here in the exposition are better than those we asked for, we are going to change our plans, for sure. The plans are the same. The numbers, the quality, but we are looking now for the quality. If we find something better than what we asked for, why not? We are flexible, we can change our plans in only the tactics, which means, from where we can get those equipment.

Q: We get the feeling that the Middle East continues to be in arms race region. How do you see the possibility of turning this around? What about disarmament?

A: Why are you always saying that there is an arms race in the Middle East? What about Europe? What about the Far East? There is an arms race everywhere, in Europe, in Latin America. Everyone tries to get what he needs to protect his country. From my personal point of view, it is not an arms race. We need to protect our country and to deter others from attacking us.

Q: What is the significance of the coming exercise with the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force?

A: We do believe that we are going to benefit from their experience in loading and landing and all this kind of equipment. We want to know more about their tactics, for sure. They are going to know more about our tactics, specially in desert warfare. So it is an exercise of mutual benefit for both of us. At the same time, we are helping the United States just in any case of emergency, if there is another superpower that is going to intervene in the region. We are going to help them in facing this danger because we cannot by ourselves face a superpower.

Q: Did your men receive enough training on the AWACS?

A: No it is not enough, but at least they are now acquainted with the system and how the system works, and we are going to go ahead with a programme of training with these personnel.

Q: How large a force of personnel can the AWACS train?

A: I dont't think I have to discuss the number, because we do not usually discuss numbers.

LUXEMBOURG'S FLESCH LEAVES CAIRO 4 NOV

NC041547 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1055 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Cairo, 4 Nov (MENA) -- Mrs Colette Fesch, Luxembourg's deputy prime minister [as heard] and minister of foreign affairs and economy, left Cairo this morning for home after a 3-day visit to Egypt.

During her visit, Mrs Flesch met with President Husni Mubarak and several Egyptian officials with whom she discussed important international questions, the autonomy talks and the multi-national force.

Mrs Flesch also had economic discussions with Minister of State for Economy Dr Sulayman Nur ad-Din, dealing with the possibility of increasing the contribution of the European Common Market member states which are participating in the Egyptian economic development plan and the participation of the Government of Luxembourg in establishing joint banks in Egypt.

GOVERNMENT THANKS USSR FOR STAND ON ZIONISM

JN042155 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Iraq has expressed appreciation for the Soviet Government's stand on the Zionist aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations.

In a letter to Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko, Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi praised the Soviet Union's diplomatic stands in international forums and its denunciation of the treacherous Zionist aggression.

Iraqi Ambassador in Moscow 'Abd ar-Rahman ad-Duri delivered the message to Korniyenko, Soviet first deputy minister, when he met him today.

The Iraqi ambassador stressed Iraq's unswerving stand toward its just battle against the Persian enemy in defense of dignity and sovereignty. He referred to Iraq's positive stands on the international efforts to halt the fighting and settle the dispute with Iran through peaceful means in such a manner that guarantees Iraq's inalienable national rights.

The Iraqi ambassador also reviewed the arms cooperation between the Zionist entity and the Persian regime and the threat it poses to the Arab struggle.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES

No 511

JN031816 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1740 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Communique No 511 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 3 November 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The brave troops of Saddam's al-Qadisiyah continued their activities in the operational sectors last night and today with the following results:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our forward units pounded with various weapons enemy concentrations in front of the positions in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region, killing 15 and destroying 4 vehicles, 1 gun and stockpile of hardware.
B. An enemy infantry and armor force was sighted in front of the positions of one of our forward units in the Abadan region. They were pounded with various weapons and forced to retreat after sustaining 12 killed and 7 tanks; 5 vehicles, one loaded with hardware; 5 stockpiles of hardware; and 1 observation post destroyed.
C. Seven were killed and one tank and one stockpile of hardware were destroyed in the Shush region.
D. Seven were killed in the Gilan-e Gharb region.
E. Five were killed in the Dezful region.
F. Two were killed and one observation post was destroyed in the Mimak region in front of our positions in Sayf Sa'd.
G. Two were killed in the Sumar region.
H. One was killed in the Nowsud region.
I. Two observation posts were destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region.

Thus, total known enemy losses were 51 killed and 8 tanks, 9 vehicles, 1 gun, 7 stockpiles of hardware and 4 observation posts destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: Seven martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Two vehicles and two mortars damaged.
C. This afternoon the Persian enemy shelled the Basra region with heavy artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 3 November 1981

No 512

JN041726 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Communique No 512 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 4 November 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave armed forces today enter the 3d month of the 2d year of our just war against the Persian racists, more determined and resolved to continue the war, no matter how long it takes, until the racist Khomeyni clique accepts the Arab nation's rights and Iraq's rights to the land and waters. The results of their activities last night and today are as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our forward units pounded with various weapons an enemy concentration in front of their positions in the Dezful region, forcing it to retreat after sustaining 19 killed and 2 vehicles, one loaded with hardware, 1 tank and 1 stockpile of hardware destroyed.
B. An enemy concentration was sighted in front of our forward units in the Abadan region. It was hit with various weapons, sustaining 14 killed and 3 observation posts, 1 vehicle and 1 stockpile of hardware destroyed.
C. An enemy concentration was sighted in front of our forward units in the Nowsud region. It was hit with various weapons and forced to retreat after sustaining nine killed and one gun destroyed.
D. Nine were killed in the Iranian region opposite Panjwin.
E. Seven were killed and one vehicle, one observation post and one stockpile of hardware were destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region.
F. Four were killed and one observation post was destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region.
G. Three were killed and one vehicle and one observation post were destroyed in the Mimak region in front of our forward positions in Sayf Sa'd.
H. Two were killed and one observation post was destroyed in the Shush region.
I. One stockpile of hardware was destroyed in the Mehran region.

J. Our aircraft today attacked enemy concentrations and positions in the southern sector of the theater of operations scoring direct and effective hits before returning safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 67 dead, 7 observation posts, 5 vehicles, 4 stockpiles of hardware, 1 tank and 1 gun.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: Nine martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One vehicle damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 4 November 1981

RAMADAN SEES OFF EGYPTIAN 'VOLUNTEERS' TO FRONT

JN042159 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Nov (INA) -- Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and commander of the popular army, has said that the sons of Arab Egypt have offered a model of heroism and courage by participating in the just war Iraq is waging against the Persian enemy.

In a statement to the newspaper AT-TALI'AH AL-'ARABIYAH published in Baghdad by the sons of Arab Egypt, on the occasion of the dispatch of a new group of Egyptian volunteers to the battlefront, Ramadan said: This makes Iraq confident of Arabism's future and ability to thwart all the machinations of colonialism, Zionism and reaction. We are optimistic about the inevitable victory of the Arabs, he added.

He pointed out that the Egyptians' participation and heroism in the war exposes the false propaganda which has depicted the Egyptian people as being tired of fighting for freedom and Arabism. He added: This heroism proves the contrary. The Egyptian people continue to enjoy their great militant spirit which no one can crush. It is the spirit of fighting against the Zionist enemy and the Camp David accords.

Ramadan underlined that the Iraqi stand on the ruling regime in Egypt, which is allied to the Zionist enemy, [words indistinct] the Arab Egyptian people struggling against the treasonous Camp David accords is something else. He added that the sincerity of the Egyptian people's stand [words indistinct] when the Egyptian man in the street moved to condemn the Zionist attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor and when Egyptian brothers working in Iraq volunteered in large numbers to fight alongside their Iraqi brothers against the racist Persian enemy.

TELEVISION AIRS FILM ON DOWNED IRANIAN PLANES

JN311802 Baghdad INA in English 1755 GMT 31 Oct 81

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Oct (INA) -- Baghdad television tonight displayed a film showing the wreckage of three Iranian jets, downed Friday over Iraq's northern territories, and a wounded Iranian pilot.

Three Iranian jets yesterday attempted to raid the Iraqi towns of Dukan and Dibs, but were shot down, two by ground defences and the third in a dogfight with Iraqi jets, as reported by Friday's war communique.

The wounded pilot, in the film, was seen receiving treatment on facial burns in a hospital. Otherwise he looked in good shape. He looked a middle age man and that suggested a non-junior rank.

Wreckage of one of the three hostile jets had crashed in the front garden of a house and the film showed a crowd of people in the garden observing the jets' wreckage.

The captured Iranian pilot will appear later tonight in a TV interview, Baghdad television said.

Iranian Pilot Interviewed

JN011902 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1820 GMT 1 Nov 81

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Nov (INA) -- An Iranian pilot captured by Iraqi forces has stressed that the Zionist entity and the Syrian regime are helping the Iranian regime in its opposition to Iraq. This came in an interview by Baghdad television tonight of 1st Lt Nuroddin Afzali from Shahrakht base, Squadron 31, who was carried from a hospital where he is being treated for wounds suffered after the downing of his plane, together with two others, in northern Iraq last Friday.

The captive pilot said that some Iranian aircraft spare parts come from Israel. He added that the Iranian Army's political department had given the officers information on political and military cooperation between the Syrian and Iranian regimes against Iraq.

On the circumstances of the downing of the three planes, he said they were downed by Iraqi planes before carrying out their mission of strafing the power station at Dibs in At-Ta'mim Governorate. He added that his colleague Captain Dawud was killed.

He said his plane was carrying napalm bombs and added that he was wounded as a result of some of them exploding during his plane's crash. He also stressed that it was Iranian planes that strafed Kuwaiti oil installations last month with the aim of intimidating Kuwait.

He stressed that the political and economic situation in Iran is bad in all aspects. He also said the Iranian people and armed forces do not want war and hope it will quickly end so they can live in peace with Iraq. He said Iran's losses in the war are very great and expressed his conviction that the Iranian Army would not be able to achieve victory over the Iraqi forces.

Concluding the interview, the captive Iranian pilot expressed his thanks for the complete medical care given him by Iraqi doctors.

SPOKESMAN DENIES DOWNING OF IRAQI AIRCRAFT

JN032110 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2045 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Nov (INA) -- An Iraqi military spokesman today denied Iranian claims that two Iraqi aircraft, a MiG fighter and a helicopter, were shot down on 26 October.

In a statement to INA, the spokesman stated that the claim in Communique No 679 issued by the Joint Command of the Iranian Forces are false claims part and parcel and are a response to Hashemi Rafsanjani's statement that all members of the air defense will be punished for failing to confront the raids by Iraqi planes. They are also designed to raise Iranian morale.

The spokesman stressed that the Tehran rulers are following the same course as followed by the shah, which was based on the dictum: Lie and lie again until people begin to believe you.

The Iranian communique claimed that the helicopter was shot down over the pier at Al-'Amiq port in the south and that the Iraqi fighter plane was shot down over Abadan.

The Iraqi spokesman said it has become clear to everyone everywhere that the Iranian communiques are misleading and false. He added that the blatant lies in these communiques confirm the extent of the deception and forgery in the Iranian communiques. The spokesman said that Iranian communiques claim that Iraq has lost thousands of tanks and hundreds of planes, and the same applies to every other kind of weapon.

The spokesman wondered: How can the Iraqis now continue to fight with more determination and capability, if they had lost that huge number of weapons and hardware. He said: If Iraq is an importer of weapons, then how many airlifts would have been needed to compensate for this shortage?

The spokesman said the Iranian officials who write the communiques have become blind and irrational.

RAMADAN CONFERS WITH ROMANIA'S DINCA 31 OCT

JN311140 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1000 GMT 31 Oct 81

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Oct (INA) -- Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, met here today with Ion Dinca, Romanian first deputy prime minister, who is currently heading a delegation visiting Iraq.

The two sides discussed ways of developing and expanding bilateral cooperation in the interest of the two frinedly peoples. They also agreed to a program on an exchange of visits by officials of the two countries for the rest of this year and for next year.

The two sides expressed satisfaction at the advanced level of relations between the two friendly countries and at what has been achieved, particularly recently. They stressed their desire to hold further serious discussions in order to continue work for a new and advanced level of bilateral relations.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES SAUDI MINISTER 2 NOV

JN021239 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Nov (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn at noon today received Saudi Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abdum Yamani, who conveyed an oral message from his brother His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz dealing with the latest developments in the Arab area.

The meeting was attended by 'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council [RCC] vice chairman; Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah, RCC secretary and acting director of the presidential office, and the Saudi ambassador in Baghdad.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES ARAB LEAGUE'S KLIBI 4 NOV

JN041241 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] This morning President Saddam Husayn received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. A comprehensive review was conducted during the meeting on the most important issues in the Arab area.

The meeting was attended by Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah, a member of the Revolution Command Council and the acting director of the presidential office, and Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, the foreign minister.

AR-RA'Y ON KING'S INTERVIEW WITH SOVIET PAPER

JN051045 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic Nov 81 pp 1, 18

[Exclusive report]

[Text] Moscow -- His Majesty King Husayn has said that the real tragedy in the Middle East took place when Israel succeeded to a certain extent in isolating Egypt from the Arab family.

In an interview with the Soviet literary newspaper LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, his majesty stressed that there can be no solution to the Middle East problem without the total withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Arab territories occupied in 1967, including Jerusalem, and the implementation of the Palestinians' legitimate right to self-determination in their own land. His majesty stressed that this is the only way to a just and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East issue, for which we are struggling. He said that without the implementation of all these conditions there can be no real peace in the region. We must not forget, he said, that achieving peace in our region is a condition for peace and security in the whole world.

His majesty praised Jordanian-Soviet relations and said they are developing favorably and are based on solid foundations. He added Jordanian-Soviet cooperation has good prospects. His majesty said he is in touch with Soviet leaders on searching for the most effective ways to achieve an overall settlement in the region. He added he intends to continue these contacts in the future.

His majesty reaffirmed that relations between the two countries are honest, do not depend on transient considerations, and have no conditions attached.

Asked about the most prominent characteristic of the situation in the Middle East, his majesty said: Recently there has been talk in the region about a tragedy. Reference is particularly made to events in Egypt. I am confident that the tragedy did not begin on 6 October this year when As-Sadat was assassinated. The real tragedy in the Middle East began long before this incident. It began when Israel succeeded to a certain extent in isolating Egypt from the Arab family.

Hia majesty said: You know quite well that we took part in the 1967 war and lost the West Bank and Arab Jerusalem. We were then working within the framework of the joint defense agreements concluded by the Arab League members. In reply to Israel's acts, the rest of the Arab states took part with us As-Sadat's visit to occupied Jerusalem took us by surprise. Perhaps no other event has ever surprising us so much. We were greatly pained because Egypt, by occupying the heart of the Arab world, has a special importance to the Arabs. However, we managed to restrain our feelings when As-Sadat delivered his speech in occupied Jerusalem. He called for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967, including Jerusalem, and for the establishment of an independent Palestinian Arab state. He also called for finding a just solution to the rest of the region's problems. However, it was As-Sadat himself who surrendered at Camp David by accepting all the demands of Begin and Carter. In fact, he disavowed what he said in the Knesset. Therefore, I believe that the recent events that led to As-Sadat's death were the outcome of this policy.

CROWN PRINCE HASAN INTERVIEWED BY U.S. EDITORS

JN031625 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Amman, 3 Nov (PETRA) -- His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, reviewed Jordan's policy on the Middle East crisis at a meeting this morning with delegation of U.S. newspaper editors on a factfinding tour of the region, including Jordan.

Asked about Jordan's stand on the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, his highness said: Jordan supports the establishment of such a state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The Palestinians should exercise their right to self-determination on their national soil. His highness added that cooperation with the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians, continues through the Jordanian-Palentinian joint committee.

His highness denounced Israel's practices against the land and the people, saying: Israel is creating obstacles to peace. There can be no peace in the region so long as Israel persists in occupying land, building settlements and changing the religious, historical and archeological features in the West Bank, Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip. Moreover, Jordan demands Israel's total withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories.

His highness the regent questions the U.S. stand on UN Resolution 242 regarding the Israeli decision to annex Jerusalem and proclaim it Israel's capital. He also questioned the U.S. stand on the establishment of settlements on Arab land, the strangulation of the original inhabitants in order to evict them and Israel's plan to dig a canal between the Mediterranean and the Dead Sea. His highness reviewed the dangers inherent in these Israeli practices against the reaching of a just solution to the conflict in the region.

He said: The Arabs need to have their security safeguarded more than Israel because Israel is the aggressor country that occupies territories of three Arab countries and resorts to acts of violence to impose its control over the Arab world, starting with its continued military interference in southern Lebanon and ending with its raid against the Iraqi nuclear reactor and its threats to Saudi Arabia and the Gulf.

Crown Prince Hasan added that Israel prefers the presence of unstable regimes to the presence of Arab unanimity and solidarity, which could confront its schemes for expansion.

Crown Prince Hasan then highlighted developments in the region. He said: We are facing a constant challenge in the region which takes several forms and dimensions, the most important being problems of food, energy and water. That is why we in Jordan are exploiting all our potentials to overcome these problems. The continuation of the current situation with its existing problems of instability and lack of security will compel the countries in the region to concentrate on armaments and on giving them priority at the expense of the social and economic problems that the Arab nation is facing.

The delegation of U.S. newspaper editors thanked Crown Prince Hasan for the honest picture he gave them of the political situation in the region and of Jordan's role, particularly for the sake of peace. They also expressed understanding of the situation in the occupied Arab territories, which was made clear to them through documented explanations regarding Israeli settlements. They promised to accurately convey to U.S. public opinion their impressions of the various aspects of the Middle East cirsis.

The meeting was attended by the under secretary of the Ministry of Information.

TIMES: ARE ISRAEL, PEACE 'INCOMPATIBLE'?

JN020955 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 2 Nov 81 p 4

[Editorial: "Nervous Menahem"]

[Text] What is it in the Saudi Arabian Mideast peace proposals that makes Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin show his true colours as a jumble of nerves? Mr Begin has reacted quickly and in a rather mad frenzy to the proposals of Crown Prince Fahd. He said the proposals aimed at Israel's gradual destruction in phases, and rejected them outright.

That's very interesting, specific, official formulations that we can think of from the Arab world, collectively or single, that explicitly talk of the right of all states in the region to live in peace (and, despite its belonging to the European basketball league, Israel presumably is among all the states of this region).

Of course, the Saudi proposals are a starting point for negotiations. There are many Arab quarters that want them clarified, and even several Arab states have already criticised them. That is, more or less, par for the course. Probably the only thing that would pass without criticism in the Arab world today is a recipe for lentil soup. Everything else, it seems, is up for debate. The Saudi peace ideas are no exception, as indeed they should not be.

We happen to think they fall into the realm of the reasonable. We are particularly pleased with the references to Palestinian statehood, because only through statehood (being the ultimate form of national self-determation) can the Palestinians also complete normally in basketball leagues and international song fests, along with the people of Israel, Saudi Arabia, France and the free and democratic republic of Belize. Why does he tear Arab professions of coexistence? He is offered peace, and rejects it. Are Israel and peace incompatible? We wonder.

SOMALI OFFICIAL ARRIVES ON STATE VISIT

JN021959 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Text] Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, received at the royal court this evening Mohamed Omar Jees, Revolution Command Council member and deputy chairman of the Political Committee in the Somali Democratic Republic.

The Somali official conveyed to his highness a message addressed to His Majesty King Husayn from His Excellency Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre. The message deals with common Arab causes, current developments in the Horn of Africa region, means of further bolstering bilateral relations and joint cooperation in various spheres between the two fraternal countries.

The meeting was attended by Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd, chief chamberlain.

Jees arrived in Amman earlier this afternoon.

Departs, Makes Statement

JN031704 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Mohamed Omar Jees, Revolution Command Council member and deputy chairman of the Political Committee in the Somali Democratic Republic, left Amman this evening following a 2-day state visit to Jordan during which he met with His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, and conveyed to him a message addressed to His Majesty King Husayn from Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre. The message dealt with current developments in the Horn of Africa and bilateral relations.

In a statement to JNA, Jees said his talks with His Highness Prince Hasan focused on the current situation in the Horn of Africa, Arab causes, bilateral relations and means of further promoting these relations.

He added that he also discussed joint cooperation in various cultural and economic spheres. Jees said Somali will take part in the meetings of the 12th Arab summit conference in Fes.

NASIR QADDUR INTERVIEWED ON FOREIGN POLICY

NC041300 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 2-8 Nov 81 pp 38-40

["Full," "private" interview conducted originally in Arabic of Syrian Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Nasir Qaddur by correspondent Nadim Abu Ghannam in Damascus "last week"]

[Excerpt] [Question] What proposals did the American envoy, Mr. Draper, put to you when he held talks with you here recently?

[Answer] Our talks with Mr. Draper were essentially a presentation of our general view of the Middle Eastern issue and our attitude towards the recent grave developments that sprang from the American-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement.

[Question] What truth is there to reports that there is an American plan for stabilization in Lebanon, involving the extension of UNIFIL's area of operations, Israeli withdrawal from the southern border strip and the withdrawal of the Palestinians' heavy weapons from the south?

[Answer] We did not go into the details of the Lebanese question with Mr. Draper, because the solution there is in the hands of our Lebanese brothers and is attainable by national accord with the help of Arab efforts, as represented by the Arab Followup Committee.

No specific plan for Lebanon was proposed to us.

[Question] We understand that the special U.S. envoy, Philip Habib, will be returning to the Middle East in November. Do you think his mission will involve the question of the Syrian missiles in the Al-Biq'a again? What is Syria's position on that issue now?

[Answer] We have no official information relating to Mr. Philip Habib's return to the region, beyond what we have read in the press.

As for what you describe as the issue of the missiles, our well-known position, which we have clarified more than once, can be summarized as follows:

First: There is no such thing as a missile problem. The whole thing has been fabricated by Israel.

Second: The missiles are part of the Arab Deterrent Forces and will remain with those forces to defend them -- for they are defensive weapons -- as long as the Arab Deterrent Forces feel they need them.

[Question] Does Syria approve of the ceasefire in south Lebanon? Does it believe that it can be turned into a "stable peace" in the south and that it can be built on to achieve a comprehensive settlement in the region, as some have suggested?

[Answer] I believe that there will be no real cease-fire as long as the enclave of Sa'd Haddad remains, because Israel is using that enclave to impose its domination on part of Lebanon.

As for the comprehensive settlement, its elements are well-known: a total, unconditional Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab and Palestinian land, including Jerusalem, and the recovery of the Palestinian people's national rights, including their right to return, determine their own future and establish their own independent state on their national soil in accordance with the pertinent UN resolutions.

[Question] Does Syria still hope that the new Egyptian president, Mr. Husni Mubarak, will change the As-Sadat policies? What does Syria intend to do to encourage him to move in that direction? And if it has no such hope, how does it intend to express its opposition to Mr. Mubarak?

[Answer] Syria is seeking and looking forward to the return of Egypt to the Arab ranks after it rids itself of the As-Sadat line and all the commitments that sprang from that line -- commitments which have dealt a heavy blow to Arab rights and distorted Egypt's Arab nationalist role. It is precisely the treasonous policies of As-Sadat that robbed the Arab world of Egypt. So it is not a question of persons -- Mubarak or anyone else -- but a question of a policy rejected and condemned by the Arab nation in its summit conferences.

Syria will continue to reject and fight this policy, using the same methods it used to fight the policy of As-Sadat.

[Question] Does Syria believe that a war may break out between Sudan and Libya, or between Egypt and Libya?

[Answer] Yes, we believe that Egypt and Sudan have hostile intentions towards Libya. There is Egyptian-Sudanese coordination, and there are Egyptian and Sudanese military build-ups on the Libyan borders.

[Question] What will Syria's position be in the event of a Libyan-Sudanese or Libyan-Egyptian military confrontation?

[Answer] If Libya becomes the target of aggression, it will not stand alone. Syria will definitely stand by it. Libya's position is one of self-defense, and if it becomes the target of Egyptian or Sudanese aggression, Syria will provide it with whatever it asks for to defend itself.

[Question] Do you think there is any chance of direct American involvement should such a confrontation develop? What would the consequences of American interference be, in your opinion?

[Answer] We hope that the United States will not involve itself in this aggression, although the American statements that have been made indicate that America is ready for such interference.

American involvement in aggression against Libya would create a dangerous situation which would pose a threat to the security and peace of the region, if not more than the region.

[Question] Does Syria regard the peace proposals made by Saudi Crown Prince Fahd as a valid basis for discussions that might lead to an alternative to Camp David?

[Answer] I do not want to get into a new debate through the media on a subject that affects the destiny and future of the Arab nation. I would prefer to discuss this matter with our brothers and the other Arabs before discussing it with the media.

[Question] What is Syria's alternative to Camp David?

[Answer] It is known that we want a just, comprehensive peace. The elements of this just, comprehensive peace are Israeli withdrawal and Palestinian rights, as I told you.

However, Egypt's breaking away from the Arab ranks, America's advent to the area through the recent strategic agreement (with Israel) and the pouring of sophisticated American weapons into Israel, along with all the Israeli gains from the Camp David agreements, have led to a great imbalance between Israel and the Arab countries.

For this reason, we believe that any peace formula that is proposed now, in the presence of this imbalance, would imply capitulation imposed on the Arabs, as is the case in As-Sadat's Egypt.

The alternative to Camp David, as we see it, lies in real, effective Arab solidarity; in Arab strength that can be used to achieve a just peace guaranteeing the rights of the Arabs and the Palestinians.

[Question] Syria has announced its opposition to European participation in the multi-national Sinai peace-keeping force. What will Syria's reaction be if the Europeans do participate in that force, and what effect would their participation have on their proposed Middle Eastern peace initiative?

[Answer] We have always welcomed positive European participation to help arrive at a just and comprehensive settlement of the Middle Eastern crisis. But our view was and remains that the European initiative, to be positive, effective and beneficial, must be totally independent, totally divorced from America's Middle Eastern policy and hence from Camp David.

Now it is being said, sometimes officially and sometimes unofficially, that one European state or another has agreed to participate in the multi-national forces in Sinai.

Our position on this participation is one of strong opposition, because such participation, should it come about, would tend to shore up the Camp David agreements, which the Arabs have rejected and condemned. Furthermore, the participation of one European state or more in that force would imply a European role which is complementary to the American role, and not a special, independent European role.

We have informed the European states of this point of view, telling them, among other things, that despite the observations we made at the time about the Venice Declaration, the participation of any European state in the multi-national force would totally contradict the Venice Declaration, which calls for a special European role, and not one that is complementary to the American role.

We would consider European participation in these forces a blow to the Arab-European dialogue. It would have very negative effects on Arab-European relations -- relations which we have always been anxious to strengthen and develop the interest of the peoples.

I believe that the Arab League will study this development if it occurs. There are now Arab contacts under way with the European states on a bilateral basis to draw their attention to the dangers which Arabs believe would be entailed by European agreement on this matter.

This matter will definitely studied by the Arabs with a view to taking the appropriate measures to safeguard Arab rights. It will be studied at all levels, and particularly at the summit conference which will be held in November.

TISHRIN REPLIES TO BEGIN'S THREATS ON MISSILES

JN050906 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 5 Nov 81

[From the press review]

[Text] In a commentary entitled "It Is Always Syria," TISHRIN says: Menahem Begin has resumed his threats against Syria. He has dug up anew the issue of the defensive Syrian missiles deployed with the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] in Lebanon, calling for these missiles' withdrawal from Lebanese territory and threatening that if they are not withdrawn, Israel is capable of destroying them in hours.

These threats are reminders of Begin's previous threats -- which openly paved the way for every stage of U.S. envoy Philip Habib's mission in the region.

It seems that these new aggressive threats are associated with Washington's announcement of the approaching date of Philip Habib's arrival in the region. When he issued his threats, Begin added: We shall give the U.S. envoy sufficient time.

From the start, Philip Habib's mission in the region was suspect. Indeed, moves and steps were coordinated with Israeli aggressive acts and threats which pushed the entire region to the brink of a big military confrontation. Among the aggressive Israeli acts accompanying Habib's moves was the barbaric war launched by Israel with U.S. planes against Lebanon and the Palestinian people on Lebanese territory.

Simultaneous with Begin's threats were reports disseminated from Washington by U.S. official sources to the effect that U.S. President Reagan cautioned King Husayn of Jordan against Syria during the talks in Washington.

TISHRIN affirms that Syria will not be affected by Begin's new threats just as it was not affected by his previous ones. As President Hafiz al-Asad asserted, Syria will courageously defend itself should it be subjected to aggression. The missiles are a myth. Begin is using it as a pretext for exacerbating the region's atmosphere and spreading clouds of war in it. They are in fact defensive missiles. Indeed, these missiles' deployment with the ADF became a necessity following Israel's attack on the two Syrian supply helicopters over Al-Biqa'. It is the duty, right and responsibility of Syria to protect its forces and to supply these forces with all they need for self-defense.

Syria will not allow the Israeli enemy or anybody else to determine the kind and quantity of arms supplied to the Syrian forces for self-defense. TISHRIN points out that it was quite a long time ago when Syria supplied its forces in Lebanon with defensive surface-to-air missiles, adding that during this period it proved to the entire world that it was Israel's aggressive policy, not Syrian defensive missiles, which is threatening peace and security in the region. Thus, why are threats being issued against Syria now, and why has the issue of Syrian missiles in Lebanon been dug up at a time when a U.S. airlift is transporting U.S. forces and arms to Egypt for training in carrying out aggressive acts against the Arab states and executing aspects of the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation, which is directed against the Arab nation?

The paper states that the U.S. imperialists -- who were afflicted with defeats of strategic dimensions in the region and who now see the Camp David wagon submerged and stalemated by the region's sands -- know well that it was Syria's brace stand under President Hafiz al-Asad that posed the major obstacle in the face of imperialist schemes, which are hostile to the Arab nation, and has represented the major power in the Arab confrontation front and has been the base of Arab steadfastness. Thus Syria has always been and will remain a target of imperialist-Zionist-reactionary plots in the region. The Arab masses will continue to pin their hopes on Syria in their struggle to liberate the territories and regain rights.

The paper concludes: In defending its nation, territory, people, rights, and a just and lasting peace, Syria does not fear threats and is capable of transforming every mad adventure against it to a curse on the aggressor and the interests of those behind this aggressor.

ALGERIAN ENVOYS ARRIVE WITH MESSAGE FOR AL-ARAD

JN041514 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1430 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Taxt] Damascus, 4 Nov (SANA) -- (Abdelhamid Mehri) and (Akhder Ibrahimi), members of the FLSN Central Committee and envoys of Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, arrived in Damascus this afternoon.

They were received at Damascus International Airport by Mr 'Abd al-Karim 'Adi, minister of state for presidential affairs, and the Algerian ambassador in Damascus.

Mr (Mehri), member of the FLN Central Committee and head of the FLN's Cultural and Information Committee, stated: We are here to convey a message to President Hafiz al-Asad from his brother President Chadli Bendjedid within the framework of consultations on issues of concern to the two states and the region.

Received by President

JN041907 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] At 1930 this evening, His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received (Abdelhamid Mehri) and (Akhder Isbahimi), members of the FLN Central Committee and envoys of Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid.

The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Karim 'Adi, minister of state for presidential affairs, and Algerian Ambassador in Damascus 'Abd al-Qadir ben Qasim.

During the meeting, his excellency the president received a message from his brother President Chadli Bendjedid on the situation in the Arab region and issues of mutual interest.

YAR'S SALIH GIVES STATEMENT ON DAMASCUS ARRIVAL

JN301735 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 30 Oct 81

[Excerpts] Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Yemen Arab Republic, arrived in Damascus at 1630 today on a visit to Syria during which he will meet with President Hafiz al-Asad to exchange views on the Arab situation. President al-Asad, who embraced him at the foot of the plane's ramp, led those who met him at the airport.

In a statement to a SANA correspondent, Salih said: I am very pleased to be visiting Syria, which embodies the meaning of steadfastness against all Zionist challenges. Syria's steadfastness is an integral part of the comprehensive Arab steadfastness in the face of all the plots that are aimed at harming the Arab nation and its fateful causes. I am certain that inter-Arab meetings and close cooperation among all Arab countries are able to strengthen Arab steadfastness and establish Arab power, which will be able to wage the legitimate Arab struggle for the liberation of all occupied Arab territories and for the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine. All Arab resources and energies can be pooled in order to reach a just and comprehensive solution in the region and to foil plots aimed at dismembering the Arabs and liquidating the central Arab cause of Palestine and the occupied Arab territories. Undoubtedly, our visit to Syria and our meeting with the brothers in this great Arab country headed by His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad will enable us to discuss the warm relations that bind our countries and to tackle the means of improving these relations in the various fields in the interest of the two peoples and the Arab nation. This visit will give us the opportunity to discuss current Arab issues in light of new events in the Arab nation, changes on the Arab level and the rise in plots against our nation, so that we can reach a joint Arab action that will manifest Arab determination to establish a just and comprehensive peaceful solution that will guarantee the liberation of Arab territories and the restoration of the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination and to establish their independent state on their homeland. All this necessitates serious and sincere efforts from all Arabs to create suitable conditions for Arab solidarity.

Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih is accompanied by a delegation including six ministers, the deputy chief of staff and a number of YAR officials.

AMBASSADOR 'EVRON TO RETIRE IN JANUARY

TA041216 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Israeli Ambassador to the United States Efrayim 'Evron will terminate his service at the end of January. Last summer Mr 'Evron asked the prime minister and foreign minister to be allowed to retire at the end of 33 years of public service. The preferred candidate for the next ambassador to Washington is the chairman of the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee, Moshe Arens.

MA'ARIV ON SHARON-LEWIS MEETING, WARNING

TA041058 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 4 Nov 81 pp 1, 15

[Report by Ya'aqov Erez]

[Excerpt] Israel's sharp reactions to partial U.S. support of the "Fahd plan" and fear of a collapse of the Lebanese sector have apparently moved the United States to ask Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon to go to Washington at the end of this month.

Israel's reaction took the form of a message from Prime Minister Menahem Begin to President Ronald Reagan, as well as remarks made by Minister Sharon to U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis at a meeting they held on Sunday, 1 November.

Mr Sharon told Ambassador Lewis that from now on Israel regards Saudi Arabia as an enemy country in the full sense of the word and it will act in accordance with this view. He added that the "Fahd plan" was a thoroughly anti-Israeli document, as Israel saw it.

The defense minister spoke at length about the situation in southern Lebanon and the continual terrorists' violations of the cease-fire. He added a warning: "I am telling you all this so that you will not be surprised by development in the near future."

The supply of U.S. weapons to Iraq via Saudi Arabia, which is denied by Washington, was also discussed in the Sharon-Lewis talk.

The turn in the U.S. approach and the rapidity with which it sent the invitation to Sharon to draw up a memo of understanding about strategic cooperation on 30 November originates -- in the view of authoritative sources -- from the assessment in Washington that the U.S. Administration had gone too far in "straining links" with Jerusalem.

Prime Minister Menahem Begin also emphasized the urgent need to find a solution to the situation in Lebanon and he again mentioned Israel's demand for the removal of the Syrian missiles in his speech to the Knesset.

There is no doubt that Sharon's announcement at the beginning of this week -- that he was postponing his trip to Washington, for which no date had as yet been set, and canceling an advance party of senior officers -- also had an effect.

FURTHER REPORTS ON HAIG'S MESSAGE TO BEGIN

TA041241 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Prime Minister Begin recieved a message from U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig today. So far there are no details of its content. The letter was delivered by the U.S. charge d'affaires.

Jerusalem radio's political correspondent says Prime Minister Begin and the U.S. official discussed some of the recent differences between Jerusalem and Washington, such as the Saudi plan and the Lebanese situation.

Special U.S. Envoy Philip Habib is to return to the area in 2 weeks' time in another attempt to solve the crisis in Lebanon.

HA'ARETZ: 'Fully Implemented'

TA051149 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 5 Nov 81 p 1

[Report by political correspondent]

[Text] Secretary of State Alexander Haig's statements on U.S. support for the Camp David accords were received with gratification in Jerusalem.

The statements, made public yesterday in Washington, and brought to the prime minister's attention by William Brown, U.S. charge d'affaires in Tel Aviv, stress that the Camp David agreements in the eyes of Washington, are the sole means of achieving peace in the Middle East. It was also conveyed to Mr Begin by Mr Brown that the U.S. commitments to Israel on strategic cooperation would be implemented in full.

Now that the U.S. political approach to a solution of the Mideast conflict has been clarified, sources in Jerusalem expect the administration to take practical steps to carry out this intention. In Jerusalem a greater and more active involvement of the administration in the autonomy negotiations is expected, as is a guarantee of Israel's military and technological capacity, in the wake of the AWACS deal with Saudi Arabia. The degree of Washington's readiness to fulfill these expections will be tested during Minister Ari'el Sharon's talks in the United States at the end of the month.

'AL HAMISHAR Report

TA051142 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHAR in Hebrew 5 Nov 81 p 1

[Report by political correspondent]

[Excerpt] Haig's message has been received at the prime minister's office with great satisfaction.

Government circles here contended that a number of Israeli moves contributed to the adoption of the recent U.S. steps:

-- The almost absolute rejection of the Saudi peace plan by a decisive Knesset majority;

-- The defense minister's statement that he postponed his U.S. trip this month because of other engagements;

-- The defense minister's tour with the chief of staff along the northern border;

-- The expected appointment of Prof Moshe Arens -- a well-known hawk who voted against the Camp David agreements in the Knesset -- as the next Israeli ambassador to the United States.

JERUSALEM POST WANTS FAHD PLAN CONSIDERED

TA041024 Jersualem POST in English 4 Nov 81 p 12

[David Landau commentary: "Knee-jerk Reaction"]

[Text] It is entirely likely that Prime Minister Begin is right: That the "so-called Saudi peace plan" (as he so calls it) is merely "a plan for Israel's liquidation in stages." There is a "high probability," to use a chilling term from our all-too recent history, that Begin is right, and that therefore his flat rejection of the plan is justified.

But what if he isn't? Even in some cases of "high probability," as we have come to learn, there is just that element of "low probability", (svirut nemuha) that should also exercise the minds of policy-makers.

I use the emotionally loaded language of "probability" advisedly. I deliberately seek to bring back to mind the terrible memories of October 1973 because there is some probability -- high, low, medium, future historians will determine -- that the war would not have happened if Israel had responded positively to As-Sadat's first peace-signal in 1971.

At that time, in 1971, when the new and universally despised Egyptian president first referred to the notion of a "peace agreement" with Israel, the "probability" that he was sincere was perceived as no higher than the "probability" today that Prince Fahd means peace.

Indeed, even in 1977, after the secret Dayan-At-Tuhami meetings, when As-Sadat announced that he was ready to go "to the Knesset in Jerusalem," there was only a "probability" -- certainly no certainty -- that he sincerely meant peace. The then Chief-of-Staff Mordekhay Gur was by no means alone when he warned that this might be a ploy to liquidate Israel, in stages or otherwise.

Most Israelis and no doubt Begin among them were troubled by the same fears. Nevertheless, the prime minister, in a stroke of historic statesmanship, resolved that Israel must give it a try.

As-Sadat's speech from the Knesset podium was not very different in its content from the Saudi plan today. Of course, though, his very presence there -- and his unequivocal talk of peace and normalization and acceptance in the region -- made all the difference, and "broke through the psychological barrier" of suspicion and distrust.

There has been no such dramatic, barrier-breaking move on the part of Prince Fahd or King Khalid.

Nevertheless, Menahem Begin (and the rest of the political establishment, including the Labor opposition) will not be exonerated before the court of Jewish history if they fail to give due consideration to the Fahd plan, however cautiously. Perhaps just perhaps, this is another of those rare cases where the "low probability" scenario supersedes the "high probability" assessment -- the assessment that the Saudi plan is purely "a dagger to be driven into our heart" (Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir).

Perhaps. But we will never know unless we attempt to find out. Instead of a blanket rejection, our response to the Fahd proposals should have been -- and still should be -- a searching challenge. We should announce our agreement with one or two of the eight points (for example, freedom of worship), our reasoned rejection of the others, our own counter-proposals -- and our invitation for negotiations with the Saudis at Geneva next Monday morning.

The purpose would be tactical to put them on the spot, and to try thereby, to ascertain their true intent.

Such an Israeli response need not prejudice the Camp David process. The Saudis are not parties to Camp David; they are not required to participate in any negotiations under Camp David; and offering to hold a separate, parallel dialogue with them need in no way imply a weakening of our commitment to Camp David.

Israel's reaction has been precisely the opposite. It has not only dismissed the Fahd proposals out of hand, it has ominously hinted if that the U.S. adopts them, the Camp David process could come grinding to a halt.

Dissecting the Saudi plan in a letter to President Reagan, Begin contended that Fahd does not even mention the fundamental concepts of "peace" and "negotiations," and Israeli officials cite a Saudi newspaper which stated that the plan does not imply "recognition" of Israel.

And the fact that the Arab rejectionists have assailed the plan ought itself to give us in Israel cause to pause before joining them in their knee-jerk rejectionism.

But all this is too superficial. The government's concern with the "low probability" scenario should be mucy more basic. Perhaps the Riyadh family firm, for its own entirely self-centered interests, has come to the conclusion -- as As-Sadat did in the '70's -- that the Arabs must reluctantly reconcile themselves to Israel's existence. Perhaps the Saudis have decided that they cannot, in the long term, count on American protection against the Soviets, and against the Arab radicals, and against the Muslem fundamentalists -- while at the same time continuing to preach and practise jihad against the Jewish state.

MAPAM SECRETARY-GENERAL ON U.S. MIDEAST POLICY

TA041134 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 4 Nov 81 p 1

[Text] The ratification of the U.S.-Saudi arms deal commits Israel to a series of short and long term conclusions in the military and political fields. It is becoming more and more apparent that the AWACS deal is only the tip of the iceberg of a strategic structure in the Middle East being built by the United States. This was said yesterday by Victor Shem-Tov (Alignment-MAPAM) in the Knesset political debate.

He thinks that, just as confrontations by the powers are increasing in the world and in our area, the strategic importance of the Arab world in general and of Saudi Arabia in particular is growing beyond that of Israel. This leads one to conclude that Israel's national interest does not lie in an intensification of the cold war between the two superpowers.

It is strange that the Government of Israel is continuing to favor the proposal from strategic cooperation with the United States in the global sphere, when it is clear that the United States is interested in military, strategic cooperation with Saudi Arabia at the expense of Israel's security, Shem-Tov added.

The speaker declared his vigorous rejection of the Saudi Arabian plan, all the more so as the Saudis themselves know it will be unacceptable.

However, he appealed to the Knesset not to ignore that vague hint concealed in the plan, that indicates Saudi Arabia's willingness to arrive at peace with Israel.

It is a fact that because of this vague hint, the entire rejectionist front is rejecting Fahd's plan. The Saudi Arabians should be pushed to the wall and given a demand for a clear reply about whether they and the Arab world around them are prepared to accept Israel's existence and sign a peace treaty with it.

The main problem, in his opinion, is not what we explain, but what we are doing to contain this plan. The government repeatedly declares it intends to annex the West Bank and the Gaza Strip with their 1.25 million inhabitants. It repeatedly publicizes plans for 100,000 new settlers in Judaea and Samaria. Under our very eyes an invasion of Yamit is being organized, into those very places that the government itself is evacuating settlers. This invasion is breaking the law, creating an atmosphere of anarchy and laying the ground for a gathering of forces for opposition to the withdrawal from Sinai scheduled in another few months. The government's weakness on this issue is being interpreted as agreement to these acts, which the government will not be able to explain aboard.

Concluding his remarks, Victor Shem-Tov said: "Even after Egypt and Israel reach an agreement on the matter of autonomy, the great problem of how to bring in Jordan and the Palestinians to implement this agreement will still remain. Israel will have no choice. Sooner or later it will have to sit at the discussion table with representatives of Jordan and of any Palestinian element that recognizes Israel and is not involved in terror. And if the PLO recognizes Israel and does not involve itself in terror, it will be a negotiating partner. Then each party will bring to the discussion table its opening positions. The negotiations will begin without prior conditions and will end with a historic agreement that will lead to stable and viable peace between Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians.

WEST BANK DISTURBANCES REPORTED, SCHOOLS CLOSED

TA041135 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Today, school studies in Judaea and Samaria were disrupted and students participated in demonstrations. In Qalandiyah vehicles driving along the main road were stoned; in Bi'r Zayt, the students set up roadblocks; in Bethlehem University the Palestinian flag has hoisted, the university doors were locked and a demonstration was held on campus. In Dura -- in the Hebron hills -- students demonstrated in the schoolyard and then stoned a security car that arrived to disperse the demonstration. In Jericho and Nabulus there were also demonstrations and stone-throwing incidents. Our correspondent, Pinhas 'Inbari, has learned that yesterday an IDF force was about to break into Bethlehem city hall to disperse a rally held by university students, but after the mayor spoke with the new civilian administrator by phone the decision was rescinded and the students returned home quietly.

Bi'r Zayt College Closed

TA041336 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] The Military Government has closed Bi'r Zayt College and instructed all students and teachers to leave the campus and the dormitories. Our correspondent, Pinhas 'Inbari, reports that this is the first time the Military Government has taken such a strong measure against the college. The students were to have removed their possessions by now. Yesterday and today the students participated in demonstrations.

In Nabulus, a joint meeting will be held between the city council and the An-Najah University board of trustees to discuss the crisis in that school. Our correspondent says this is a victory for Mayor Bassam ash-Shak'ah because until now the chairman of the board of trustees, Hikmat al-Masri, has denied the mayor the right to intervene in school affairs. Al-Masri recently fired four lecturers and the mayor demanded that he rescind the dismissal. That is why the university has not held classes for approximately 2 weeks.

Court Stays Evacuation

TA041828 Jersualem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] A high court of justice judge this evening issued an order which stays the forceful evacuation of the students and lecturers from Bi'r Zayt college. The stay will be in effect until tomorrow noon when an appeal submitted to the court by a lecturer and three students via attorney Le'a Zemel will be heard. About 200 students did not obey the military governor's order today to evacuate the campus and adjacent dormitories. Our correspondent has learned from the defense establishment that following negotiations between the military authorities and the college's president the students left.

Disturbances on 5 Nov

TA051025 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] There have been disruptions today of studies in Ramallah. Students threw stones at vehicles and broke the windows of a private car. In Bethlehem, Hebron and Dura village, leaflets were distributed this morning condemning the village unions, condemning the Civilian Administration and supporting the PLO.

Golan Heights School Closed

TA050717 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] The Military Government in the Golan Heights has decided to close the regional school in the village of Mas'adah for the time being. Our correspondent, Yo'el Dar, reports that there has recently been unrest in the school and attempts made to instigate student strikes. Friends of Israel in the Golan Heights say that the unrest originates in the desire of some students to cancel the school's Hebrew classes. A representative of the Ministry of Education and Culture denies the claim, saying that the unrest is connected with relations between the students and a Druze teacher from Galilee.

KNESSET DISCUSSES SINAI FORCE'S IMMUNITY

TA041645 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Report by parliamentary correspondent Gil'ad Mishori -- recorded]

[Text] [Mishori] The law of immunities and rights of the multinational force, which deals in the rights and legal status of participants in the force that is about to be established, was the basis today for a Knesset discussion of principles involved in the formation of the force. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir gives details about the necessity of the legislation and says:

[Shamir] In order to facilitate operation of the force, it is necessary to complete the legislative arrangements, therefore we have an interest in adopting the law as soon as possible.

[Mishori] A number of Knesset members express apprehension and raise reservations regarding the force, its structure and goal. MK Dani Rosolio of the alignment voices concern over the behavior of European countries about to contribute troops to this force.

[Rosolio] I am concerned. I would like the foreign minister to state what securities, guarantees and steps Israel is adopting and demanding. What are the commitments from Britain and others that their participation in the multinational force will not become a tool to undermine the Camp David agreement?

[Mishori] MK Tawfiq Tubi of Hadash calls the force an American force of conquest. MK Ge'ula Kohen of Tehiya says the force has not been formed yet and, eventually, it will be formed at the last minute and against Israeli interests. Amnon Lin of the Likud demands a U.S. commitment to act according to the Camp David agreements and not hold a dialogue with the PLO or discuss a Palestinian state. A commitment on the principles of autonomy by January is to be demanded, Lin says. If all these are not achieved by then, he thinks the Knesset should be convened for a renewed discussion of the agreements. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir answering all these Knesset members says, we are aware of the concern and doubts in the public regarding the political situation. We are aware of the changes, of contingent changes and of risks. He sets a clear condition for countries interested in joining the multinational force:

[Shamir] We found a way to inform all of them, including the United States, that any declaration or statement that contradicts the terms of the agreement on the establishment of the force -- the agreement we, the Egyptians and the United States have cosigned -- any such declaration or statement will cancel the participation of those proclaimants in the force. Participation in the multinational force must be based solely on the agreement we, Egypt and the United States signed within the framework of the Camp David agreements. We shall not accept anything likely to contradict this or deviate from those documents.

[Mishori] This is what the foreign minister says and, on behalf of all the Knesset factions, except for Hadahs, the bill of the rights and immunities of the multinational force goes to the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee to be formulated.

'DIFFICULTIES' EMERGE AT TRANSPORT DISCUSSIONS

TA041823 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] The head of the Israeli delegation to the normalization talks currently being held in Cairo, Arye Grozbord, says difficulties and differences have emerged in the negotiations over the transportation and aviation agreements. In a telephone conversation with our correspondent, Eli'ezer Pney-Gil, Grozbord said the Egyptians insist that the agreement on direct flights to St Catherine's be limited to 2 years while Israel is opposed to this. Difficulties have also emerged on the issue of Israelis traveling to the Sinai by sea. The Egyptians demand that such tourists obtain visas in advance.

DOCUMENT ON IRAQI REACTOR WILL BE SENT TO UN

TA040608 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] An Israeli document that includes new disclosures on the contacts that preceded the bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor will be submitted to the UN General Assembly in a few days. A debate on this issue is to be held there. The contacts were maintained over 5 years in an effort to persuade France, Italy and the United States not to provide Iraq with nuclear know-how and technology.

POST: PRESIDENT NAVON TO VISIT EGYPT 17 NOV

TA040919 Jerusalem POST in English 4 Nov 81 p 3

[Text] President Yitzhaq Navon and his wife Ofira will make a condolence visit to Egypt on Tuesday, 17 November, the last day of the 40-day mourning period for the late President Anwar as-Sadat. This was decided yesterday by Israeli and Egyptian officials.

Navon and his wife, who made a state visit to Egypt a year ago, will travel on a small plane with a small entourage. After laying a memorial wreath at As-Sadat's grave in the morning, they will call on his widow Jihan.

A meeting between Navon and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak is scheduled. Mrs Navon will meet with Susanne Mubarak.

The president and his party will return to Israel before nightfall the same day.

EHRLICH TO DEPART FOR EUROPE 5 NOV FOR TALKS

TA041022 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] The damage to Israel as a result of incorporating more countries into the EEC will be featured prominently among the topics Deputy Prime Minister and Agriculture Minister Simha Ehrlich will discuss with his French counterparts. Our Paris corresondent, Gil'ad Sher, reports that Mr Ehrlich will arrive there tomorrow, at the start of a visit to a number of European capitals. Other bilateral issues will also be discussed.

The deputy prime minister will proceed to Brussels, London, Bonn and Rome.

ALGERIA

'ARAFAT MAKES STATEMENT ON ARRIVAL IN ALGIERS

LD041918 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Armed Forces of Palestinian Revolution, arrived in Algiers this afternoon. The leader of the Palestinian revolution was welcomed by Mohamed Cherif Messadia.

'Arafat made a statement at the international airport: The serious developments which have taken place recently in the Arab region and the experiences of the Palestinian revolution have made it necessary for us to visit Algiers so that we can discuss with our Algerian comrades the (?recent developments) stirring up the Arab region. 'Arafat added that the sinister military concentrations against the peoples [words indistinct] while the American-Zionist strategic alliance is reaching new dimensions in our region create a real danger not only [words indistinct] but which threatens the [word indistinct] whole. The coming Arab summit, the leader of the PLO added, will discuss a number of important issues and my visit to Algeria will enable me to have talks with Algerian officials on these problems so we can approach this summit with common and unified aims.

In conclusion, 'Arafat stressed that the current conditions in the Arab region constitute one of the most dangerous stages we have experienced. We should remain vigilant to face these dangers which we [words indistinct].

Further Report

LD042103 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Excerpts] The chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian Armed Forces arrived in Algiers this afternoon accompanied by Brother Abu al-Walid [Col Sa'd Sayil], member of the Fatah Central Committee, member of the 'Asifah forces' general command and in charge of [word indistinct] operations room.

Yasir 'Arafat made a statement in the VIP lounge in reply to a question on Arab developments:

[Begin recording] First, because of the development and critical and important events which our Arab region is experiencing in general and which the Palestinian revolution is experiencing in particular, it was inevitable that I should come here to my brothers in Algeria to discuss with them all these issues and events which the Arab region is experiencing.

As is known, there are growing Israeli military concentrations in southern Lebanon against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and against the Palestinian revolution. At the same time, the U.S. strategic military alliance which began to [word indistinct] dangerous dimensions in the Arab region as it constitutes a threat not only in a particular region but for the Arab nation as a whole.

There is also a forthcoming meeting of the Arab summit and there are a large number of issues to be submitted for discussion to that conference. On that occasion, it is inevitable that a united Arab stance would become clear.

And I have also come to discuss with my brothers, especially President Chadli Bendjedid and my brother strugglers, all these issues in all their dimensions, depths and details so that we might embark on this conference with a united joint view.

In my estimation, these circumstances which the Arab region is experiencing are the most critical we have known. We have to step forward with utmost vigilance and care [words indistinct]. [end recording]

ALGERIAN-NIGER BORDER COMMISSION ENDS MEETING

LD031404 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] The second meeting of the Algerian-Niger mixed border commission ended in Algiers yesterday. The meeting began on 28 October. The Algerian delegation was led by Ismail Hamdani, member of the central committee and adviser to the presidency. The Niger delegation was led by the Niger ambassador to Algiers. The commission studied the results of the joint field survey operations. In accordance with the OAU principle not to encroach on the borders inherited at the time of independence, it has been decided to begin erecting the demarcation posts between the two countries and to end the operation before the end of December. This is in accordance with the wish of both countries and in the spirit of good neighborliness and fraternity.

LIBYA

AL-'UBAYDI URGES DISCUSSION OF U.S. MANEUVERS

LD050026 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2300 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] The secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, Brother 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, met with brother ambassadors of the Steadfastness and Confrontation [Front] countries in Tripoli yesterday evening. The brother secretary, during his meeting with the brother ambassadors, explained that the imperialist defiances confronting the Arab nation require a meeting of the political committee of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, which would include foreign ministers, to discuss the aggressive U.S. maneuvers aimed at the Arab nation. He said that these maneuvers, to be carried out on Arab territory, over its skies and around its territorial waters, are not considered in the Jamahiriyah as a passing event, but in reality as a U.S. invasion of the Arab homeland and an attempt to occupy it -- reinstituting it into an area of U.S. influence, domination and imperialism.

He added that the flights of the strategic B-52 aircraft in the Arab skies and their violation of our airspace and the entry of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces into Arab territories required from us, as a national front for steadfastness and confrontation, a serious stand; it also requires us to meet to discuss this dangerous situation and to take a firm stand regarding it.

COMMENT ON U.S. PLAN TO ASSASSINATE AL-QADHDHAFI

LD041640 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Confirmed information published by a number of news agencies and by Arab and foreign radio and press...disclosed that the Pentagon in cooperation with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency is striving to implement a plan aimed at the leader of the revolution during the period 10-15 [Nov] -- which coincides with the time fixed for the provocative military maneuvers by the American forces in western Egypt.

The editor of the political programs section in the radio services has written the following analysis:

The American plan to carry out an operation directed against the leader of the revolution is, right from the beginning, nothing new in the American stand toward the Great al-Fatih Revolution. America's attempt to assassinate the leader, an attempt directed against the revolutionary reforms of the Jamahiriyah and the gains of its masses, is not new in as much as it is -- in the manner recently exposed by news reports -- a development of American plots against the revolution and its achievements. The CIA is no longer alone in the task of implementing the attempt. The Pentagon, in all its agencies and military bodies, has become party to the implementation of this dirty colonial plan.

In fact, the Jamahiriyah and its people and historic leadership has become the top preoccupation of the U.S. Administration -- especially after Reagan came to the presidency -- to the extent that a Washington POST commentator wondered whether Reagan had no other portfolio than that of Libya or whether the U.S. Administration has become an administration for threatening Libya?

The deadly despair of the U.S. Administration is represented in the plan to assassinate the leader of the revolution, which now has to rely for its implementation on the U.S. Air Force. Press, radio and news agency reports say the plan will be carried out by strafing all the places where the leader of the revolution is believed to be. Observers link this foolhardy American posture and the previous attempt in August when the U.S. Air Force during a maneuver in the Mediterranean off the coast of Libya deliberately penetrated the Gulf of Sidra in an attempt to penetrate deep into Libyan territory.

SOMALI POLITICAL OFFICIALS ASK FOR ASYLUM

LD050158 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Brother: Umar Milad Ilmi, acting deputy of the general secretary of the ruling Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party, chairman of the party's central bureau for administrative affairs, member of the Central Committee and member of the Somali People's Assembly; Abdallah Muhammad Hasan, chairman of the party's bureau for cadres affairs, member of the Central Committee, member of the Somali People's Assembly and a former minister of information and national guidance; Uthman [words indistinct] Salih, an official of the party's Central Committee, member of the Somali Revolutionary Youth Union Central Committee and the Union's former general secretary for foreign relations; Ahmad Abbas Ahmad, a lecturer at the Somali national university, and Sister Zuhrah Abdallah Faraj, an official of the party's Central Committee and member of the Somali Revolutionary Youth Union Central Committee, arrived in Tripoli and asked for political asylum in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

These brothers held a press conference in Tripoli yesterday evening, in which they revealed the repressive dictatorial practices of the agent dictator. Siad Barre pursues a repressive policy hostile to the Somali people, allies himself to imperialism and persecutes the opposition national forces.

The brothers denounced the support of the Siad Barre regime for the stable of David accords, its violation of the Arab League character through its open support of those accords and its call for the Americans to build military bases on Somali territory -- in Barbarah, Kismabu and Mogadishu, to protect the moribund regime.

The brothers strongly denounced the attack by the United States on the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and on the Arab nation, Africa and the world as a whole. They also denounced the participation of the Siad Barre regime in the land, sea and air maneuvers conducted by U.S. imperialism and Arab reaction.

In reply to a question about their motives for coming to the Jamahiriyah and asking for political asylum, one of the brothers said the Jamahiriyah embraces revolutionaries and is is the source of revolutions. He said it supports liberation movements everywhere and takes the position that Siad Barre's decision to sever relations with the Libyan Arab people did not represent the will of the Somali epople. We are here to confirm the [words indistinct] the relations betwen the Libyan Arab people and the Somali people and to explain that the permanent relations are between the peoples and not between the governments.

HUNGARIAN MINISTER, DELEGATION ARRIVE 1 NOV

LD021038 Tripoli JANA in English 0949 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Text] Tripoli, 2 Nov (JANA) -- The Hungarian minister of agriculture and food, Jeno Vancea, and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Tripoli yesterday on a visit to the Jamahiriyah.

GDR'S HONECKER THANKS AL-QADHDHAFI FOR GREETINGS

LD020940 Tripoli JANA in English 0810 GMT 2 Nov 81

[Text] Tripoli, 2 Nov (JANA) -- The leader of the Great al-Fatih Revolution received a telegram from Erich Honecker, secretary general of the United German Socialist Party and chairman of the Souncil of State of the German Democratic Republic , in response to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's congratulatory telegram on the 32d anniversary for the founding of the German Democratic Republic.

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA HOPES PLO RECOGNITION WILL FOLLOW AWACS

PM041111 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 1 Nov 81 p 1

[Talhah Jibril report]

[Text] Rabat -- Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta has made an exclusive statement to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT on U.S. congressional approval of the AWACS deal with the Saudi Arabian Kingdom. He said: "This issue would have in fact raised several questions about the future of U.S. relations with the other Arab states had the deal not been approved. There is no doubt that a good part of the Zionist uproar which accompanied the opposition to the deal was fabricated. However, the important thing in the whole operation is that it has become clear that dealings between the United States and the Arab states, along the same lines as dealings among other states, are possible without paying any attention to the influence of the Zionist lobby, even though everybody is aware of the extent of the lobby's influence in the United States."

Replying to a question on the repercussions of the deal's approval on the Middle East crisis, Boucetta said: "The political repercussions that could follow this decision are represented in the fact that U.S. policy regarding the Middle East crisis and the Palestinian issue could pursue a reasonable path, by realizing that any dealings with the Arabs must take Arab rights into consideration and that the Palestinian issue must be resolved. What the whole world has acknowledged in this regard must also be taken into account, namely, that the displaced Palestinians are not refugees but people evicted from their homeland, that their rights must be restored to them through negotiations with their only legitimate representative, the PLO, and that the Middle East crisis cannot be remedied without tackling these basic facts."

Boucetta added: "These might seem mere hopes with regard to the U.S. approach to the Palestinian issue. However, hopes can become realities and that is what I wish for in the wake of the decision on the AWACS deal."

Recognition of the Organization

Replying to another question on whether the approval of the AWACS deal is tantamount to a positive indication of a tendency toward U.S. recognition of the PLO as the only legitimate representative, Boucetta said: "This is the hope I have just expressed. Those serving the cause of peace in the area could have encouraging circumstances created for them to utilize their previous work and to continue their efforts to direct U.S. policy toward that target of recognition of the PLO."

Commenting on the criticism made by some people, Boucetta said: "Much has been said about this deal. Personally, I am not an expert on military affairs. The deal may be unimportant now because delivery is not for a number of years. However, according to my knowledge, when the Saudi Arabian Kingdom requested the deal, it accepted no conditions prejudicial to its sovereignty as a country or damaging to the rights of the other Arab states. I believe that this was sufficient reason for the Zionist lobby and its sympathizers to launch a campaign against the deal."

HASSAN, CHEYSSON DISCUSS WEST SAHARA SITUATION

PM041207 Paris LE MONDE in French 30 Oct 81 p 6

[Roland Delcour dispatch]

[Text] Rabat -- French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson left Rabat on 29 October after chairing the French-Moroccan grand commission session late Wednesday afternoon and having talks with Boucetta, his Moroccan counterpart. Before that, he had a 90-minute meeting with King Hassan II in Fes.

As expected, the situation in West Sahara and the consequences which the Polisario's attack on Guelta Zemmur will have on the peace process launched by the OAU in Nairobi formed the main subject of the talks.

The king confirmed the Moroccan version of events, stressing the size of the forces used by the Polisario (around 3,000 men) and the sophisticated weapons used by the assailants, especially the Soviet-made T-54 and T-55 tanks whose presence at Guelta Zemmur is now regarded as virtually certain by military experts in Rabat. (note: "Saharan Defense Minister" Brahim Ghali recently told journalists that the Polisario Front had captured 54 T-54 tanks intact after the fall of Lebouirate in 1979, 6 French-Austrian S-105 tanks at Lengueb, at the beginning of the same year and 32 AML armored vehicles during the first Ouarkziz battle in March 1980. Several dozen of these different vehicles have been shown to journalists on various occasions. Ghali denied their presence at Guelta Zemmur but did not rule out the possibility of them being used in other battles.) He also confirmed the use of SAM-6 missiles by the Polisario, which strikes the same experts as less certain, and asserted that it was not possible for any of the pilots from the Moroccan aircraft shot down to be saved.

Hassan II apparently cited the figure of 36 Moroccan prisoners, which seems low compared with those put forward by the Polisario: 200 initially, then 230, of which around 60 were shown to journalists. The Moroccan losses must have been around 400 men killed or taken prisoner, according to military observers, out of the 2,600 soldiers of the 4th regiment based in Guelta Zemmur. Some 800 other soldiers apparently were wounded or "suffering from shock" and 1,400 were able to hold their positions until reinforcements arrived.

The Moroccan king seemed determined to pursue the course laid down by the resolutions of the second Nairobi conference in August on the conditions for the West Sahara referendum. His argument is simple: The Polisario attack was essentially aimed not at obtaining security for a possible referendum but at rendering it fundamentally null and void. For Rabat, therefore, the objective should be exactly the opposite: to continue to prepare for the referendum as actively as possible.

The king thinks that the implementation committee meeting which OAU Secretary General Kodjo intends to convene fairly soon could be held immediately after the Fes Arab summit conference at the end of November, the non-Arab members of the committee being able to join the others in Fes. The aim would be to hold the referendum in the next few months. Kodjo left for Algiers on Wednesday.

These statements are in keeping with the convictions expressed by the monarch on his return from Nairobi at the end of June. Thus, far from taking back his freedom of action statement regarding the OAU decisions, he seems determined to keep his promises and to put the Polisario to the test.

The king and the French minister also discussed the Near East question, the Cancun conference and Chad, whose situation Cheysson has been following hour by hour.

TUNISIA

COMMUNIST PARTY CLAIMS 20 PERCENT OF VOTE

NC050707 Paris AFP in English 0647 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Tunis, 5 Nov (AFP) -- The Tunisian Communist Party claimed here Wednesday that it got up to 20 per cent of the vote in last Sunday's general election, in which all 136 seats in parliament were officially won by a government coalition.

Party Secretary-General Mohamed Harmel told a press conference that the election had been rigged by the regime of President Habib Bourguiba, whose Destourian Socialist party in alliance with the country's biggest trade union, the UGTT, won all the seats.

The communists and two other opposition parties which took part in the poll, the first multi-party vote for 25 years, were declared to have together won only five per cent of the vote. The government has rejected their charges of fraud.

The authorities had said the communists had polled 0.78 per cent of the vote nationwide, but Mr Harmel said they had in fact got 15-20 per cent and as much as 30 per cent in the southern town of Gafsa. He said the government had lost credibility in its campaign to give the country a more democratic image.

CAMEROON

GOVERNMENT REAFFIRMS LAGOS ACCORDS ON CHAD

AB041526 Yaounde CAMEROON TRIBUNE in English 28 Oct 81 p 1

[Text] State House Friday published an important statement in which it reiterated its stand by the Lagos accords as the sole and legitimate way of solving the Chadian problem.

The statement said because of the profound links of friendship and brotherhood which have always bound the people of Chad and Cameroon together, the Government of Cameroon will continue, as in the past to follow the evolution of the situation in Chad with close attention.

It said Cameroon had always been associated with efforts aimed at bringing about permanent peace in that country at bilateral level and within the framework of the Organisation of African Unity.

The statement said the Government of Cameroon reaffirms with force, the validity of the Lagos accords on Chad, following the resolutions of the 18th conference of heads of state and governments of the OAU held in Nairobi last July, as the essential base for any solution to the Chadian problem.

The Cameroon Government remains convinced, the statement said, that the re-establishment of peace and the normalisation of the situated in Chad will only come about by the strict application of the pertinent Lagos accords within the respect of the independence and sovereignty of Chad.

It said the government remained attached to the rapid setting up of a neutral peace-keeping force by the OAU with the aid of the United Nations all of which are the conditions necessary and indispensable for the reconstruction of the country.

Meanwhile, President Ahmadou Ahidjo Saturday received Chad's Economy and Finance Minister Michel Ngangbet Kosnaye in audience. The Chadian minister who came to deliver a special message from President Goukouni Oueddei abstained from making any comments on the content of the message to newsmen.

CHAD

GOUKOUNI REACTS TO AL-QADHDHAFI DECISION

JN031757 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1720 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] At the beginning of this newscast, we stated that the major news item was the Libyan leader's decision to withdraw its forces from Chad. The first reaction to the Libyan decision came from Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei in Paris. Nabil Darwish reports the Chadian president's reaction.

In an exclusive statement to our correspondent (Jacques Delamain), who is covering the French-African summit, the Chadian president said: I have not been informed officially of the surprise Libyan decision to withdraw. In any case, this is not new because the Chadian Government asked the Libyan Government to leave Ndjamena immediately and other Chadian territory in 2 months. If the Libyan Government has decided to leave the country in a week or 3 days, this will change nothing because the Libyan Government possesses the means to transport its forces immediately.

LIBYAN TROOPS BEGIN LEAVING EASTERN CHAD

AB050830 Paris AFP in French 0804 GMT 5 Nov 81

[Text] Ndjamena, 5 Nov (AFP) -- The withdrawal of Libyan troops from the eastern part of Chad began on Tuesday, Chadian military official sources announced in Ndjamena today.

The cities of Guereda, Adre, Iriba -- all situated along the border with Sudan -- were abandoned by the troops in less than 40 hours, the same sources stated. No military equipment can be seen.

The situation is the same at Ati, between Abeche and Ndjamena about 400 kms from Ndjamena.

Libyan troops and equipment have simultaneously begun to leave Abeche (20,000 inhabitants), the most important city in eastern Chad, the military sorces also indicated.

SUNA Account

JN031825 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1750 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Ndjamena, 3 Nov (SUNA) -- The Libyan occupation forces in Chad began to leave Ndjamena at noon today in the wake of the Chadian Government's request and increasing African and international pressure calling for their withdrawal.

Diplomatic sources have told SUNA that Tripoli has instructed Acyl Ahmat, Chadian foreign minister and Libya's strongman there, to fabricate battles with the other fronts following the Libyan forces' withdrawal. These sources warned against an eruption of the situation there, particularly after the Libyan forces began to withdraw from Chad as of this afternoon and following the increasing international, African and internal pressures on these forces to withdraw.

It will be recalled that Acyl Ahmat passed through Tripoli yesterday en route to Paris to attend the French-African conference in France. He called for the retention of the Libyan forces in Chad and opposed their withdrawal. Observers note that in his statements following his meeting with Libyan officials, Acyl Ahmat stressed that civil war might break out if the Libyan forces withdraw. It was also noted that he emphasized that the Chadians are unqualified to run their own affairs.

The commander of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's forces in Chad refused to say whether the time limit Al-Qadhdhafi had set for the withdrawal of his forces applies only to Ndjamena and the Chari-baguirmi region or whether it includes all of Chad.

AFP Report

AB041652 Paris AFP in French 1600 GMT 4 Nov 81

[By AFP special envoy Bernard Degioanni]

[Text] Ndjamena, 4 Nov (AFP) -- Twenty-four hours after the order given by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi to Libyan troops to leave Chad, the airlift between Ndjamena and Libya continued unbated on Wednesday while nothing is known about what is happening in the rest of the country.

According to Colonel Radwan, commander in chief of Libyan forces in Ndjamena, who personally received the order from Colonel al-Qadhdhafi on Tuesday to begin evacuating from Chad, the total withdrawal of Libyan troops from Chadian territory will take place within 15 days.

Rumors circulating in Ndjamena on Wednesday say Libyans will soon leave the region of Abeche, eastern Chad. But the absence of regular airlinks between the capital and Abeche (20,000 inhabitants -- 800 km from Ndjamena) has not made it possible up to now to confirm or to deny the possible departure of Libyans.

However, a Chadian minister who wants to remain anonymous told AFP that by 1600 more will be known about the situation in this region.

According to the minister, if Libya pulls out of the Abeche region and Ndjamena at the same time, this would mean that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, who has not officially informed Chadian authorities of his decision to withdraw his troops from Chad, is trying to create difficulties for President Goukouni Oueddei's government whose precarious cohesion could thus be disrupted by rivalry between the country's various military factions.

As a matter of fact, Abeche, which has become a real Libyan stronghold since last April, is the perfect example of the rivalry between the Chadian military factions. More than 6 months ago, Chadian Interior Minister Mahamat Abba Said's First Army expelled from the city soldiers of Foreign Minister Acylo Ahmat's Revolutionary Democratic Council.

However, Acyl Ahmat's troops, supported by the Libyans, took over Abeche and the whole region, which almost immediately fell under Libyan control.

According to various reports from the inhabitants of that region who fled to Ndjamena, Abeche is the best example of the policy Libya wanted to establish in Chad. According to these witnesses, almost all over the city, revolutionary committees have been set up. A number of inhabitants have joined the Libyan cause either out of fear of retaliation or because they have received money.

According to these witnesses, an atmosphere of suspicion very quickly prevailed; we were even afraid to speak among ourselves for fear of being betrayed by our own neighbors and former friends, they state.

People from southern Chad who settled down in Abeche left the town which lost half its population in 6 months. All sanitary and commercial activities seem to have been taken over by the Libyans. Many public buildings have been painted green (the color for Libya). Even the stone monument erected in memory of a French general killed near Abeche in 1911 was painted green. Almost all the inscriptions are written in Arabic, the witnesses further stated.

Owing to this state of affairs, a confirmation of withdrawal of the Libyan forces from eastern Chad would be an essential part of the Libyan withdrawal, observers note.

In Ndjamena itself, a continuous airlift was set up at the civilian airport on Wednesday.

According to several agreeing sources, 10 aircraft, (some Ilyushin-76's and DC-8's) carrying equipment and about 1,500 soldiers have already left Ndjamena.

On the other hand, it was not possible to determine the number of soldiers and the amount of equipment yet to be evacuated from the three Libyan bases situated to the east of Ndjamena nor was it possible to determine what the situation at the Libyan base at Douguia, 60 km from the capital, as the base is strictly off limits to journalists.

Libyan Colonel Radwan, who is directing the operations, refused to state the number of soldiers he would have to withdraw within 2 to 3 days from the region of the capital upon orders from Tripoli. It is a military secret, he said.

According to observers in Ndjamena, the numerous air turnarounds which took place Monday night at the Ndjamena airport, 24 hours before Colonel Al-Quadhdafia's withdrawal order, ensured the secret departure of most of the military equipment and soldiers from Ndjamena. As the Libyans are not obliged to submit their flight plans to the Chadian civil aviation authorities, no details could be obtained on the destinatiin of these planes.

HABRE ORDERS FORCES TO SUSPEND OPERATIONS

JN041755 Khartoum SUNA in English 1745 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Al-Junaynah, western Sudan, 4 Nov (SUNA) -- Former Defense Minister of Chad Hissein Habre ordered his forces to stop any military operations except for self defence. The order which was issued yesterday demands all the fighters to act firmly according to the instructions till new orders are issued.

A military official from the Armed Forces of the North told Sudan News Agency (SUNA) correspondent here that they keep watching the situation moment by moment and they hope that peace process would begin in Chad following the withdrawal of the Libyan troops from all Chadian terrotories. He also said that they are ready to sit at a round table conference to negotiate for finding out a peaceful solution based on the conference of Lagos to Chadian problem.

ZAIRE

MOBUTU: ZAIRE READY TO PARTICIPATE IN CHAD FORCE

AB041445 Paris AFP in French 1337 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Paris, 4 Nov (AFP) -- Zaire is ready to participate in the inter-African peacekeeping force for Chad, President Mobutu Sese Seko stated during an interview on French television Channel 20.

The undertaking made by France to help Chad to defend its sovereignty is a welcome one, he said, adding that he favors the setting up of an inter-African peacekeeping force in Chad. Zaire is ready to send a contingent, if necessary, right now, the Zairian head of state added.

Development is Zaire's number one problem, but this cannot come about without security, he stressed.

On the new French leaders' African policy, General Mobutu said President Francois Mitterrand had made himself the spokesman for the Third World's cause. I knew General de Gaulle, the man responsible for independence in Africa, then came George Pompidou who followed the same policies and the Giscard d'Estaing with all that he did for my country and for other African countries. I think the same line of conduct is continuing, the Zairian president said.

MALI

PRESIDENT TRAORE 'NOT AFRAID' OF AL-QADHDHAFI

LD031740 Paris Domestic Service in French 0645 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Interview with the president of the Republic of Mali, Brig Gen Moussa Traore by Didier Lecat; in the studio -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] President, the French-African summit is opening among new prospects for cooperation but also in a grave economic and political context for Africa with the problems of Libya, Chad, economic problems of impoverishment and the consequences of drought. Well, arriving in Paris, what do you expect of its new leaders and do you hope for a redefinition of French-Malian and French-African cooperation in general?

[Answer] As you have just said, this summit is opening while the world is confronted with very great difficulties, difficulties due to inflation, the energy crisis and, of course, drought in Africa. Thus, at this conference Africa is expecting a very important change in the redefinition of France's economic policy, and also that it will allow Africa to redefine a new economic policy.

[Question] I would like to ask you very directly what you think about the situation in Chad?

[Answer] You know many errors have been committed in this affair concerning Chad, and during the Freetown summit it was decided to send inter-African intervention troops to Chad. Since then, no troops have been sent to Chad and the legal, I was going to say legitimate, government of Chad has called on Libya to intervene in the country. I believe that by doing that the government acted in the interests of the population. That is what I believe, but at this point and given the OAU decision, we think that Chad is prepared to accept African intervention troops to allow the population to devote itself to development.

[Question] So, (?you think) that the solution can only be an African one and that the problem cannot be settled (words indistinct)?

[Answer] The solution of the problem should primarily be an African solution. It has not been said that Chad should not have other relations with other countries, notably France, which has a moral responsibility. Furthermore, it is not ruled out that France may be able to help Chad directly, that is what France can grant, increased aid to Chad on a bilateral level either within the framework of training a national army or within the framework of Chad's economic development.

[Question] Taking into account the positions adopted in Paris, you are basically in agreement with the French policy in Chad and you have nothing to say on this subject to President Mitterrand?

[Answer] As you know, I have just told you that France has a moral responsibility. Given that responsibility, France must engage itself in assisting Chad in one way or another.

[Question] President, you have mentioned Libya. I would like to ask you if you are afraid of President al-Qadhdhafi. In your opinion, is he in the process of destabilizing Africa and (?could) that be the greatest danger for Africa, Mali, the African countries neighboring Libya?

[Answer] [Words indistinct] I am not afraid of Al-Qadhdhafi. In fact; I will never be afraid of Al-Qadhdhafi. Mali was indeed, for a time, the object of a destabilization attempt on the part of Libya but it did not upset us and it cannot upset us because we are what we are and if others get agitated I do not think that there is any need to get over agitated.

ANGOLA

DOS SANTOS DISMISSES PETROLEUM MINISTER

AB031138 Luanda Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] President Jose Eduardo dos Santos yesterday relieved Jorge de Morais, minister of petroleum, of his duties. According to the presidential decree, De Morais was dismissed for not giving valid reasons for disobeying the president's instructions relating to the carrying out of his duties. The former minister also is accused of giving out $10,000 each to two officials of the Sonangol [Angolan National Oil Company] for reasons yet unknown. According to the same presidential decree, Jorge de Morais is accused of bad behavior resulting in the deterioration of working relations between the Petroleum Ministry and Sonanagol. Due to this, authority and discipline in the petroleum sector has completely declined. With the dismissal of Jorge de Morais, Lt Col Pedro van Dunen, minister of energy, will head this sector until the appointment of another minister of petroleum.

LESOTHO

OPPOSITION WANTS UN-SUPERVISED ELECTIONS

AB031557 Paris AFP in English 1530 GMT 3 Nov 81

[Text] Johannesburg, 3 Nov (AFP) -- The opposition Basutoland Congress Party of Lesotho said today that it would take part in a general election next year if the United Nations supervised the vote and the party received guarantees of freedom and security during the campaign. Party leader Ntsu Mokhele, in an interview with the South African news agency, SAPA, said the party would also agree to take part if representatives of Eastern-bloc countries left Lesotho during the election campaign and the day of the vote.

Prime Minister Chief Leabua Jonathan recently promised to call a general election if Mr Mokhele's party would halt its guerrilla activities. Mr Mokhele said he wanted to see an end to the war being carried out againt the regime by the Lesotho Liberation Army, a wing of the party. But an end to the conflict was out of the question if his three conditions for an election were not met, he said. Lesotho, which is surrounded by South Africa, has had no general elections since independence 15 years ago. In 1970, Chief Jonathan annulled a vote when it became clear the Basutoland Congress Party would win.

ZIMBABWE

SWAPO CITES CONDITIONS FOR CONFERENCE ON NAMIBIA

AB041455 Paris AFP in French 1421 GMT 4 Nov 81

[Text] Salisbury, 4 Nov (AFP) -- South Africa must withdraw its troops from Angola before any conference on Namibia can be held, declared the secretary general of SWAPO, Moses Garoeb, in an interview with the Zimbabwe news agency, ZIANA.

Garoeb, currently briefing the frontline countries on the attitude of SWAPO toward the Western proposals for the settlement of the Namibian question, stressed, however, that SWAPO is searching very sincerely for a peaceful settlement for the independence of this territory. The SWAPO delegation met with Robert Mugabe, prime minister of Zimbabwe, in Salisbury before the latter held talks on Monday with members of the contact group touring the frontline countries, stated Garoeb. He also stated that the SWAPO delegation also held talks with Foreign Affairs Minister Witness Mangwende and that a meeting with the minister without portfolio, Nkomo, is scheduled for Wednesday. Nkomo is the leader of the Patriotic Front Party which closely collaborated with SWAPO during the Zimbabwe war of independence.